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201.3-3-58

OFFICE MEMORANDUM *** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33740)

DATE: 12/10/57

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
MEMBERSHIP
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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CARE SHOULD BE USED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT.

CG 5824-S* on November 15, 1957, made available to SA [redacted], for photostating, the following items:

(1) A letter addressed to, "National Committee, Communist Party, U.S.A., Attention: Eugene Dennis", and signed, "Fraternally, Bobby". The letter, a copy of which was directed to "District Committee, Communist Party of Western Pennsylvania, Attention: Steve Nelson", sets forth the request of BOBBY (LNU) of Pittsburgh, for a hearing regarding his Communist Party status. One photostat copy of this document, which is being retained in Chicago file 100-33740-1A6, is being enclosed herewith to the New York and Pittsburgh Offices. *one destroyed*

12 - New York (Encls. 4) (REGISTERED) *re encls - see notes in let*
(1 - 100-17923) (JOHN GATES) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-73561) (ABRAHAM UNGER)
(1 - 100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-15946) (JAMES TORMEY)
(1 - 100-1696) (ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN)
(1 - 100-23825) (BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-23774) (JOHN WILLIAMSON)
(1 - 100-269) (HENRY WINSTON) (#7-1)
(1 - 100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON)
(1 - 100-16021) [redacted]

100-18677
1 - Newark (100-) (PAT TOOHEY) (REGISTERED)
1 - Philadelphia (65-1687) (TOM NABRIED) (REGISTERED)
3 - Pittsburgh (Encls. 2) (REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-) (CP - USA, Membership)
(1 - 100-) (BOBBY (LNU))
(1 - 100-1763) (STEVE NELSON)
2 - Chicago
(1 - A/134-46)

JJC:kw
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100-80638-1389

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 16 1957	
NEW YORK	

Walter

CG 100-33740

(2) A letter dated October 29, 1957, addressed, "Dear Bobby", and signed, "Fraternally, Eugene Dennis". The letter, which has a "P.S." stating that TOM NABRIED, of Philadelphia, is Chairman of the Appeals Committee, acknowledges the receipt of BOBBY's letter (item #1) and states that BOBBY's letter has been referred to the National Appeals Committee. One photostat copy of this letter is enclosed herewith to the New York and Pittsburgh Offices. The Chicago copy is being retained in Chicago file 100-33740-1A7.

(3) A letter dated November 8, 1957, addressed, "Dear Pat", and signed, "Sincerely, Stretch". According to CG 5824-S*, this letter contains STRETCH JOHNSON's views on the ABRAHAM UNGER case. One photostat copy of this letter is enclosed herewith to the New York Office. The Chicago copy is being retained in Chicago file 100-33740-1A5. According to CG 5824-S*, this letter was addressed to PAT TOOHEY.

(4) A sheet of paper with handwritten comments on both sides. This paper, according to CG 5824-S*, contains, in JOHN GATES' handwriting, GATES' views regarding the ABRAHAM UNGER case. The handwriting states that CARL WINTER is familiar with the 1948 phase of the UNGER case, when UNGER was dismissed as an attorney at the first Smith Act trial when he refused to follow the policy of the National Committee; that JIM TORMEY is familiar with the 1948-1951 phase of the UNGER case, and that in 1951, on the complaint of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN and other defendants in the second Smith Act trial, UNGER was suspended for refusing to carry out the line the National Committee wanted to pursue in the case. The handwriting indicates that present at the meeting at which UNGER was suspended were "GENE" (DENNIS), "myself" (JOHN GATES), "BEN" (DAVIS), "JOHN W." (JOHN WILLIAMSON), "HENRY W." (HENRY WINSTON), "BOB T." (ROBERT THOMPSON). One photostat copy of this document is enclosed herewith to the New York Office. The Chicago copy is being retained in Chicago file 100-33740-1A8.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

DATE: 2/3/58

FROM : SA JOHN A. HAAG, #7-0.

SUBJECT: CP USA MEMBERSHIP
IS-C

On 1/24/58, [] furnished two mimeographed copies of a "Dues Order" which she obtained on 1/23/58, at CP USA Headquarters. Informant stated that 5000 of these orders were made and given to [] The paper for this job was donated by BERNARD ADES.

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One copy is being placed in instant file (1B/09) and the other is being placed in 100-128817-17 / CP USA District 2 Membership.

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[]
1-New York (100-128817) (CP District 2 Membership) (19-2)
1-New York (100-12481) (BERNARD ADES) (12-10)
1-New York (100-80638)

JAH:img

(4) *img*

100-80638-1390

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FEB 3 1958	
F.D. NEW YORK	

Water

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-105)

2/6/58

SAC, NEW YORK (100-131686)

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CP, USA - SOUTHERN REGION
IS-3

On 1/15 and 24/58, NY 2000-82 furnished photographs of documents in possession of [redacted] Administrative Treasurer, CP, USA, at CP Headquarters, 125 East 30th Street, NYC.

Included in the photographs furnished by informant was the following tabulation for CP Districts of what is probably referred to by the CP as "Southern Solidarity Assessment Group". Informant was able to provide only the enclosed photographs of these booklets inasmuch as the CP is maintaining a listing of the numerical sequence of the books allocated to the various CP Districts.

"District"	Total # Books	From	To	#	(100)
New York	1500	1501-1600	1601-1700	2701-2800	2801-2900
		1701-1800	1801-1900	2901-3000	3001-3100
		1901-2000	2001-2100	2101-2200	2201-2300
New Eng.	75	2402-2476			
E. Pa.	150	2-90	402-440		
W. Pa.	65				
Ohio	150	701-800	451-500		
Mich.	100	601-699			
Illinois	200	901-1000	1001-1100		
Illm.	100	1101-1200			

- 4 - Bureau (100-3-105) (Encl. 1) (RM)
 (1 - 100-3-68) (CP, USA Funds)
 (1 - 100-3-68) (CP, USA Membership)
 1 - New York (100-131686) (19)
 (100-74560) (CP, USA Funds)
 (100-80638) (CP, USA Membership)

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NY 100-131600

District	Total # Books	From	To
Oregon	20	15001-15100	
Washington	150	15001-15100	15101-15200
New Jersey	150	15201-15300	15301-15400
Conn.	50	15401-15500	
Wisc.	50	15501-15600	
Calif.	25	15601-15625	
Mo.	15	15626-15640	
Ind.	20	15641-15660	
Maryland	40	15661-15700	
So. R.	70		
No. Calif.	200	15701-15800	
So. Calif.	600	15801-15900	15901-16000 (500)
Montana	10	16001-16010	
Utah	5	16011-16015	
Idaho	5	16016-16020	

This was information also furnished the following
 letter dated 1/9/38, from RED STEIN, National Organizational
 Secretary, CP, USA, addressed to "Dear Comrade", which
 is included as follows:

NY 100-13200

100-100000-100000

100-100000

"Based on the decision of the National Committee, you received several weeks ago, booklet on Southern Solidarity Association program. We had hoped that in the course of the registration drive it would be possible, while collecting dues, that you would also be able to collect Southern Solidarity Association.

We have received no acknowledgment on your part either that you received the Southern Railway bonds or that you have started to collect payments.

The work of the Southern Regional Committee at the present time is almost completely dependent upon monies received from Southern Solidarity organizations.

It urge that as quickly as possible you send us all the monies collected for Southern Solidarity.

Conclusions

RECEIVED

F.B. He would like to get some response on the progress of registration in your district. He have received no information on either the problems or the progress of the registration drive."

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-68)

February 10, 1958

SAC, CHICAGO (100-33740)

COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
MEMBERSHIP
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SAC
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
SEC. 8
SEC. 9
SEC. 10
SEC. 11
SEC. 12
SEC. 13
SEC. 14
SEC. 15
SEC. 16
SEC. 17
SEC. 18
SEC. 19
SEC. 20
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CG 5824-S*, on February 7, 1958, orally furnished to SA JOHN E. KEATING the following comments on the current registration drive of the Communist Party - USA:

Based on observation and statements of such persons as FRED FINE, EARL DURHAM, [redacted] and many others, the current Communist Party registration is not an actual registration in the sense of past Party registrations. It might better be described as a "nose counting". Party regulations have always required that dues be paid up before a person could be registered. In the past there were instances where some settlement was agreed upon before a person was registered.

During the current registration, however, anyone who does not specifically state that he considers himself out of the Party will be considered a Party member, even though no dues payment is made.

It is very possible that District membership figures will be juggled in order to gain some sort of an advantage. For example, there have been proposals that the Communist Party hold either a national consultative conference or another convention in order to try to settle some of the ideological and factional differences. Since the number of representatives from a District to either a conference or a convention would be based on membership figures, it is possible that some, if not all, Districts will claim a larger membership than the actual membership.

On the other hand, if SID STEIN comes to the conclusion that the Right wing will lose out in the struggle for leadership of the Communist Party - USA, he may try to show

- 2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)
① - New York (100-80638) (CP-USA, Membership) (#19-1) (REGISTERED)
2 - Chicago
(1 - A/134-46)

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100-80638-1392

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Waters

CG 100-33740

that the losses of membership are greater than is admitted. He would try to illustrate that incorrect policies have caused the large losses of membership and the isolation of the Communist Party.

Those who want to attempt to show that the Communist Party is still strong will slant the membership figures one way, and those who want to show that the Communist Party is becoming a sect will slant the figures in the opposite direction.

Director, FBI (100-3-68)

February 13, 1958

SAC, Detroit (100-16906)

CP, USA MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

Re: Let 11/15/57, instant caption.

The following is submitted to show the current status of the registration drive within the Michigan District, CP, USA, as of February 1, 1958.

On February 11, 1958, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past concerning information in the possession of THOMAS DE MITT DENNIS, Secretary of the Michigan District, CP, USA, advised that a chart in the possession of DENNIS showed that as of February 1, 1958, out of a possible 303 members within the District, 60 had been registered, and according to DENNIS' figures, this was 26% of the potential. b7D

Contacts with [redacted] are being maintained weekly when maximum security is possible. On each contact, additional registration information has been made available. b7D

It is noted that numerous of the registration forms from the club contain sufficient data to identify the members, i.e., the registrants' initials have been indicated along with the other information.

The Bureau, as well as the New York Office, will be kept advised of the progress in this matter.

2 - Bureau (RM)

③ - New York (RM)

(1 - 100-4991 CP, USA (19-1))

(1 - 100-80634 CP, USA DELBACH (19-1))

2 - Detroit

(1 - 100-2050 CP, USA MICH. DISTRICT)

(1 - 100-8482-Sub 1A)

RAH:JAS

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100-80638-1323

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Waters

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

DATE: 2/14/58

FROM: SAC; NEWARK (100-4234 E)

RE: CP, USA
N.J. DISTRICT
ORGANIZATION
IS - C

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE THE BUREAU UNLESS CAREFULLY AND PROPERLY PARAPHRASED. THE INFORMANT SHOULD NOT BE IDENTIFIED WITH ANY SPECIFIC LOCATION OR ACTIVITY. IN SUBMITTING EXTENSIVE INFORMATION OR INFORMATION PERTAINING TO DIFFERENT LOCALITIES IN REPORT FORM, IT MAY BE DESIRABLE TO USE TWO SYMBOL NUMBERS. BUREAU AUTHORITY SHOULD BE REQUESTED BEFORE SUCH IS DONE.

[redacted] furnished the following information to SAS JOHN A. HAAG of the New York Office and [redacted] of the Newark Office on 1/29/58.

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2 - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)

4 - Los Angeles (REGISTERED MAIL)

- 1 - 100-4486 (DOROTHY HEALEY)
- 1 - 100- (CP, USA SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA)
- 1 - 100- [redacted]
- 1 - 100- [redacted]

7 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)

- 1 - 100-23825 (BEN DAVIS)
- 1 - 100-8057 (EUGENE DENNIS)
- 1 - 100-27452 (ROBERT THOMPSON)
- 1 - 100-50090 (SID STEIN)
- 1 - 100-80641 (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
- 1 - 100-80638 (CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP)

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2 - SAN FRANCISCO (REGISTERED MAIL)

- 1 - 100- [redacted]
- 1 - 100- (CP, USA, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA)

5 - Newark

- 1 - 100-4234 E
- 1 - 100-19491 (PAT TOOHEY)
- 1 - 100-2974 [redacted]
- 1 - 100-4234 U (CP - FACTIONALISM)

VEM:JAC
(20)

Waters

100-80638-1394

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Waters

19

Letter to Director, FBI
NK 100-4284 E

A N.J. resolution was prepared by [redacted] N.J. State CP Chairman and National Committee member, and PAT TOOHEY, National Committee member and member of the N.J. CP. This resolution was to represent the collective thinking of the N.J. CP as to what they thought were the existing problems within the CP, USA. At a State Executive Board meeting this document was discussed and adopted and then turned over to [redacted] and [redacted], N.J. State CP Committee member for "polishing," and eventually to be brought into the December, 1957 NEC meeting by [redacted], who was a member of the NEC, as the collective thinking of the N.J. CP. This resolution was subsequently presented to the NEC by [redacted]; however, there has been some discussion in N.J. that this was a substantially changed document representing the pro-right views of [redacted]

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Informant advised that on 1/28/58 PAT TOOHEY contacted SID STEIN at CP, USA Headquarters, New York City and advised him that [redacted] had changed the N.J. document which was read to the NEC at the December, 1957 meeting. TOOHEY asked STEIN to recall that the N.J. document, consisting of seven specific motions was drawn up and typed by [redacted] in STEIN's office and on the same night was read and adopted by the N.J. State Board. TOOHEY stated the document was then given to [redacted] and [redacted] for corrections as to spelling and grammar. TOOHEY stated he later learned that [redacted] changed the document so that it was of the "right" persuasion and without informing him of any such changes [redacted] read this document to the NEC at its December, 1957 meeting. She also identified TOOHEY as one of the authors of this altered document, putting him in a "right" position. The original took no partisan viewpoint and equally criticized the right and the left, whereas the new document took a right wing position and included issues to which [redacted] knew TOOHEY objected.

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TOOHEY stated that when he first heard of this he objected to it but raised no issue since it was done and passed and an objection would serve no purpose. According to TOOHEY, [redacted] agreed not to use the document further as a manifesto or expand on it because it was

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Letter to Director, FBI
NK 100-4284 E

obviously one-sided. But again [] was deceitful, since at the next N.J. Board meeting she brought it up again for discussion and use.

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TOOHEY pointed out to STEIN that the original document stated, among other things, substantially as follows:

"We agree with the decisions of the 16th National Convention which apprised that the main danger is usually left sectarianism but that revisionism and right opportunism must also be watched."

He stated that [] changed this to read, "In our judgment the main danger in the present inner party struggle is left sectarianism." TOOHEY told STEIN that because [] is on his, STEIN's, side in the struggle he, STEIN, does not see anything seriously wrong with her actions. He warned STEIN that STEIN may be left "holding the bag" if [] should break with the CP. STEIN will "go down the drain" the same way many people did when JOHN GATES deserted the CP. TOOHEY stated that he did not want STEIN to agree with him on policy in connection with the resolution, but wished to discuss the method and action taken by [] in substantially changing this document.

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After some discussion STEIN agreed that the document had been changed substantially by [] changing it from a center-of-the-road to a pro-right resolution. STEIN told TOOHEY he would be willing to sign the original document to show his personal approval of the seven motions. STEIN stated there is now a third document that is even farther away from the center than the first two. He stated that maybe this indicates that people are "so knocked off base" by the situation in the Party that they are not sure of what they are doing.

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STEIN continued by stating that present indications are that EUGENE DENNIS, ROBERT THOMPSON, BEN DAVIS and others from the left will take control of the CP at the next National Committee meeting on 2/15,16/58.

Letter to Director, FBI
NK 100-4234 E

The decisions of the 16th National Convention will be overthrown and according to STEIN will be substituted with a more vicious policy. He stated that he is certain that if DENNIS, ET AL take over the CP leadership within two weeks 500 members will quit in California. There has been a definite statement on this point by such California people as ~~DOROTHY HEALEY~~, [redacted] to the effect that they will leave the CP.

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STEIN stated that one year ago there were 18,000 CP members, but today because of the factional strife there are about (7,000.) He added that if DENNIS, ET AL take over the membership will go down to 3,000.

EXTREME CARE SHOULD BE USED IN DISSEMINATING THE ABOVE INFORMATION.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM • United States Government

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

DATE: 2/14/58

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33741)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
ORGANIZATION
IS - C

On January 20, 1958, CG 6202-S* furnished information concerning a conversation between CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, Illinois CP State Chairman, SAM KUSHNER, Vice-chairman of the Illinois CP, MORRIS CHILDS, a member of the Illinois State Committee, and ROBERT THOMPSON, a member of the CP National Committee from New York City who was visiting in the Chicago area at that time. LIGHTFOOT and KUSHNER are also members of the CP National Committee.

Care should be used in reporting this information due to the sensitive nature of the source.

- 1 - Boston (100-20779) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION) (RM)
1 - Los Angeles (100-26044) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION) (RM)
2 - Minneapolis (RM)
 (1 - 100-1878-P) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION)
 (1 - 100-6379) (CARL ROSS)
① - New York (RM)
 ① - 100-80638) (CP, USA-MEMBERSHIP)
 (1 - 100-87211) (CP, USA-FACTIONALISM)
 (1 - 100-86624) (CP, USA-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)
 (1 - 100-89590) (CP, USA-STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
 (1 - 100-89691) (CP, USA-DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES)
 (1 - 100-133902) (CP, USA-ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE MASS ORGANIZATIONS)
 (1 - 100-128814) (CP, USA-NEW YORK DISTRICT-ORGANIZATION)
 (1 - 100-23825) (BENJAMIN DAVIS, Jr.)
 (1 - 100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS)
 (1 - 100-17923) (JOHN GATES)
 (1 - 100-50090) (SID STEIN)
 (1 - 100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON)
1 - Newark (100-4284) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION) (RM)
1 - Philadelphia (100-31723) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION) (RM)
1 - San Francisco (100-27749) (CP, USA-ORGANIZATION) (RM)
(Copies continued page 1a)

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(32)

100-80638-1395

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Waters

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Copies continued

11 - Chicago

1 - 100-18953	(CP, USA-Illinois District-Organization)
1 - 100-19491	(CP, USA-Illinois District- Domestic Administration Issues)
1 - 100-34438	(CP, USA-Illinois District- Attempts to Infiltrate Mass Organizations)
1 - 100-18963	(CP, USA-Illinois District-Factionalism)
1 - 100-24729	(EMANUEL BLUM)
1 - 100-3470	(MORRIS CHILDS)
1 - 100-18001	(FRED FINE)
1 - 100-14652	[REDACTED]
1 - 100-2748	(SAM KUSHNER)
1 - 61-867	(CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)

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CG 100-33741

These CP leaders were discussing the internal problems of the Party, particularly the factional situation within the National Party leadership.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT said he wanted to explain his position regarding the Party problems. He criticized the complacency which followed the 16th National Convention due to the idea that the decision of the Convention would be carried out -- obviously, this was incorrect. He said he believed there is a strong tendency to have what is called a "showdown" and a fight to get a following in the "Right" or "Left" forces within the Party. He said this tendency is not confined to the "ultra-Left" and that forces on the "Right" and on the "Left" keep gravitating in the direction of the "Left or Right". LIGHTFOOT said it has been this combination which has shaken up the leadership in the Party and that mobilization of both sides has taken place along factional lines. If this is allowed to continue, it will not make for ideological clarity and the mobilization is proceeding on "hysterical lines".

LIGHTFOOT said the Party must emphasize specific questions in a programmatic way. He said it is also necessary to clear up the point that it is necessary to have a one-sided approach on the need for ideological clarity before getting into mass work. He said he would not characterize any particular group on this point, but that this tendency must be fought in part, if not in toto.

LIGHTFOOT mentioned a conversation he had recently held with EMANUEL BLUM in which BLUM tried to show that if one has a revisionist outlook, it will reflect itself in everything. LIGHTFOOT questioned the truth of this and said he is sure that a lot of people are just groping and are not sure of where they want to go or what they want to do.

LIGHTFOOT compared the present situation with the situation in the 1930's. He said that the line which had been

CG 100-33741

developed in the 6th World Congress was criticized at the 7th World Congress. He said he ran for Congress on the South Side on a platform for a Soviet America and self-determination in the Black Belt. He got 32,000 votes, the highest number ever achieved in this district and he attributed this vote to his platform on self-determination in the Black Belt. He said the Party was sound theoretically in that period, but it was not sound in regard to the direction of the American economy at that time. He said there was a factional struggle in those days but that the Party circumvented it in such a manner that the Party could still fight, and this fight could be on other questions and headway could be made. He said that the point was that the Party was able to make an accurate appraisal of a mass issue which was before the country and that enabled the Party to have a "jump" on the vanguard role.

LIGHTFOOT said that in those days the Party was also in the vanguard in leading the organization of the unorganized. He said he was trying to draw an analogy on how the Party could get out of a situation. He said the Party has to delineate the questions and it must be clear and give leadership in this period. He said that this should be spelled out concretely so that the Party will be able to get to work even though a lot of other things have not been cleared up.

LIGHTFOOT said the questions which he would like to see concretely outlined by the Party relate to the following types of work:

1. The struggle for peace. The Party's position on the role of American imperialism is not too popular. He said he believes that most of the comrades on the "Right" do not share the idea of JOHN GATES about the drive for world domination. LIGHTFOOT called for a discussion theoretically on the struggle for co-existence and the struggle for peace and also called for programmatic approaches to these struggles.

2. The main tasks and responsibility in the fight.
3. How the Party keeps from isolating itself from the masses and does not give the impression that it is the agent of a foreign power. He said this is a tactical question which must be kept in mind.
4. How the above points are projected by the Party in relation to other matters.

LIGHTFOOT then turned to the subject of a study by the Party of the present situation in the labor movement. He said that in addition to a labor policy statement, the Party needs an appraisal of the economic situation in this country and the Party must be forewarned and forearmed on the mass struggle of the worker. He said that in this context, it is necessary to discuss theory and not put these questions into a vacuum.

He said he received the impression from some of THOMPSON's remarks in New York that some comrades are oriented on forces outside the Party and not on forces inside the Party. Others are pre-occupied with forces inside the Party, and they have a blind spot for those outside the Party. These forces need to be pulled together. He said he favored putting the primary emphasis on the Party organization and that he had no illusions that the people who left the Party are going to flock back.

LIGHTFOOT said his position, in essence, is summarized by his desire for maximum agreement on mass policy, whether theoretical or programmatic. Concerning other theoretical questions on the role of socialism, LIGHTFOOT said he would not be in any great rush although the Party should continue to work on these questions. He said he is ready to take the following position and fight for it. The comrades in California and elsewhere say that the main reason the National Convention decision has not been carried out is that most people did not want it carried out. LIGHTFOOT agrees that the 16th National Convention has not been applied, but to call somebody a dirty name about it does not help. The central question is what can be done to apply

CG 100-33741

it at this time and this would require an initial understanding of the Convention and of what others understand about it. He said the concrete, driving points of the Convention should be spelled out but before applying the points involved in the decision, there is the matter of interpreting them. He said there is no reason why these points can not be interpreted and the next step would be the job of carrying out the decisions. He said those opposed to the Convention decisions should set forth concretely what it is that they oppose. LIGHTFOOT said that a vast service would be rendered to the Party if everybody could forget the attitude that people who are non-conformists in regard to what has been the status quo, are revisionists, or that all people who were dogmatic on questions yesterday have remained dogmatic. He agreed that both revisionism and dogmatism do exist. LIGHTFOOT then suggested the possibility of a new leadership for the Party which would be brought together under a different set of circumstances than those which have prevailed. He said the present National Administrative Committee (NAC) and National Executive Committee (NEC) have taken up factional overtones in everything. LIGHTFOOT stated that if there is going to be a Left leadership, let there be a Left leadership but the Left will not lead the Party out of its isolation. If it should, LIGHTFOOT would be the first to applaud. He said the main thing is to get a leadership so that the Party knows there is somebody to help in given situations.

Remarks of ROBERT THOMPSON

THOMPSON called the analysis presented by LIGHTFOOT "sound" and said he believed that they could establish some areas of agreement. He spoke of three main areas in connection with the 16th National Convention and said that the areas of disagreement growing out of this have the effect of impeding the Party as an effective force in relationship to the role it plays.

THOMPSON called for hard work to solve the questions involved, but not in terms of the fighting of the pre-Convention period. He said no service to the Party would result from

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fighting on these questions in that way. He then outlined the three areas which he had mentioned previously:

1. A very wide area in regard to what the 16th Convention wanted insofar as the type of Party wanted was concerned. He said there was a large section of the leadership which operated in the pre-Convention manner after the Convention was over, supporting the view point that the Party is a discussion group. He said there has been a prevalent discussion on what type of organ the "Daily Worker" should have been, whether it would reflect the Party or opposition to the Party. In regard to JOE CLARK, some people were writing in the paper and discussing their views contrary to the Party's views.

Regarding JOHN GATES, THOMPSON said GATES wants the type of Labor Socialist Party that Britain has with the same attitude toward the Soviet Union.

THOMPSON said the 16th National Convention tackled a very important job -- it tackled confusion in the Party, overcoming short-comings, bureaucracy, and it tried to round out the approach to working - class unity and overcoming very harmful lines. LIGHTFOOT added that the Convention also provided the right of dissent. THOMPSON agreed, and said that this was within the frame work of democratic centralism, but that the Convention was not fully consistent with this. He referred to the election of National Committee members who are responsible to certain areas and not to the National Committee itself. He said he did not believe that this procedure was right. He said the right of dissent can be provided up to a point which will still avoid the demoralization of the Party. THOMPSON said he believed the Party could not have expected to immediately find the form which would establish this right in the Party life without going overboard. He said he is not too disturbed about this, but he is not adverse to taking another look at it and establish it with safe guards which would make it an improvement in the life and function of the Party while retaining the essentials of an organization based upon the principles of Party organization as they are known, namely, democratic centralism.

THOMPSON said the central question should be asked as to what kind of Party is wanted and then this question should be resolved. To not do so, is to frustrate the Party on every front, in practical activities as well as in the manner of organization.

2. THOMPSON said the second big area is related to determining what is the vanguard role of the Party. He said there is not much ~~argument~~ concerning the form of vanguard role outside of the extreme Left. He said the form corresponds to changes that have taken place over the last 15 year period. He said the Party was very slow in appraising changes after the 1945 Convention and in beginning to adapt and exert the vanguard role in a way that corresponds more closely with changes that have taken place. He said this problem is still before the Party.

He said it is one thing to center attention on forms for initiating the role of the Party and it is quite another to approach the Party from the view point that success for this kind of role is diminishing. He said that in planning and work of the Party in relation to the AFL-CIO, the Teamsters Union, and others, Party leaders have come up against the concept of the role of the Party at every turn.

3. THOMPSON named the third big area as the question of the Party's role in the socialist front and the Communist front. In the Hungarian situation, he said, there was a strong tendency operating to achieve disassociation of the Party in this country from the role of the Communist movement. There was the emergence of a very strong form of an idea that in order to win support for the ideas of socialism in our country, we have to make clear that the socialism we advocate is not -- has very little in common with the socialism throughout the world. THOMPSON said that unless he is mistaken, this is wrong. He said this idea begins to push the Party in the direction

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of moving into a collision which would result in the very public form -- disassociation from the world socialist movement. Actually, while this general idea is being put forward under the guise that the Party has created it, this is the basis upon which the NORMAN THOMASES, the Socialist Party, the American Labor Party and the Trotskyites have operated.

THOMPSON said that the re-emergence of this concept in "our Party" at this point is quite something other than an adaptation or application of creative Marxism in a new situation. He said he believed this idea would not last long in the Party.

THOMPSON commented that even these areas of disagreement within the Party were not fore-ordained. He said it was his opinion for a number of months that the Party could achieve a mass policy and could create an atmosphere where the more basic theoretical questions could be thrashed out over a longer period of time within the frame work of retaining work, and while doing that, the Party could shed the extremes, Left and Right, and avoid a sharp internal struggle on a theoretical and ideological level. He said that the sharpness in disagreement among Party leaders started in its present form during the period of the CLARK resignation when JOHN GATES projected the slogan of dropping the Left.

THOMPSON said he does not agree that a leadership must have all forces of the Left and center. He would hope that a leadership grouping would include a lot of comrades who would have been associated with the Right. He said he thinks the salvation of the Party depends on this. He does not favor the extreme Left forces nor does he favor forces which will not change their position and which continue to fight on the platform that JOHN GATES laid down.

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THOMPSON said that after the introduction of the California Resolution, there was a beginning of an alignment of state organizations behind the resolution and that this was a projection of the idea of a leadership of one coloration, particularly a Right coloration. He said he would fight as hard as he can to prevent the Party going under a Right leadership, which he believed would be disastrous. He said that most of those supporting the Right position more or less based themselves on the position of STAROBIN that the Party is an obstacle to Socialism; that changes are necessary in the Party, and that Marxism is out dated. He said there has been no real ideological political defense against these concepts because, at every stage of the withdrawals (of members), there have been comrades who may not agree tactically with the withdrawals or resignations but who have a large basic area of agreement with this political point of view represented by STAROBIN, [] and a whole host of others who have left the Party.

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THOMPSON said he does not favor a Party leadership of one coloration, but does favor trying to get a leadership which is not of one coloration and which does not exclude comrades because of any policy point of view but which leadership, nevertheless, has within it a firm majority which is able to carry out the Party's programs and policies in a given direction. He said this grouping should be around a more or less "center" position, but when LIGHTFOOT suggested that THOMPSON meant "left of center", THOMPSON agreed.

THOMPSON said that in his opinion, there are comrades who are afraid, as he is, of the rise of an extreme, lunatic Leftist tendency in the Party. He said the surest way to get this is to abandon the field of struggle and ideology by going backward. He said they should recognize that California is "lining up" and that there is active caucussing in New Jersey, Philadelphia and New England with an approach to the coming National Committee meeting of "now or never". He said there should be a halt to this. LIGHTFOOT said New York is also in this picture and New Jersey will follow them, in his opinion.

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LIGHTFOOT, speaking of the reports by EUGENE DENNIS and SID STEIN at the National Executive Committee meeting in December, 1957, said that regardless of what else he may agree or disagree with in the two reports, he cannot agree with the approach of DENNIS. He said that DENNIS, in his report on the Party progress since the 16th National Convention, placed the main emphasis on revisionism and that he, LIGHTFOOT, does not share this feeling. He said the "ultra-Left" was not mentioned and that DENNIS did not deal with the "Left" at all.

THOMPSON said that DENNIS' position is not an unchanging one and that in the "center" they always have the problem of a very vocal and vitriolic Left. THOMPSON said that in the last New York State Committee meeting, BEN DAVIS opened up in a very forceful manner politically against the extreme Left. He said SID STEIN praised the Left at this same meeting, calling them "honest, fine and forthright". SAM KUSHNER said that FRED FINE had made the same type of statement.

THOMPSON said that LIGHTFOOT was doing a useful thing because he was not arguing only for the sake of argument. KUSHNER then stated that LIGHTFOOT wants to keep unity in the National Committee, but that he, KUSHNER, believes that unless some agreement is reached basically along the lines of the DENNIS report, unity in the ranks will not be achieved regardless of the direction achieved in the National Committee. He said that the "ultra-Left" would be considerably strengthened by anything less than an agreement along the lines of DENNIS' report. He said that unless DENNIS and others, in the eyes of the great part of the Party, are fighting for the kind of comrades which KUSHNER believes can be accepted, the Party is going to have the "ultra-Left" in a most fanatical and demagogic manner.

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Speaking of objectivity, LIGHTFOOT said that everybody could indulge in some criticism and self - criticism but that nobody will do so because the other side would use this for factionalism. He said objectivity, therefore, goes out the window. He said that whether he goes to the Right on some questions and to the Left on others, and he does not deny that his sympathy is toward the Right, he wants to see some subjectivity in the picture. He said you cannot say that a substantial corps of cadre in the Party are responsible for the Left extreme, since this extreme has been there all the time and has been fighting this problem for a long, long time. LIGHTFOOT said that JIM KELLER, in a document, went back to 1948.

LIGHTFOOT said that although nobody was lining up sections or divisions, there were people who set out electoral policy in the Illinois District who shared KELLER's viewpoint. He said only certain areas could be mobilized for "our electoral policy". Referring to the extreme "Left", LIGHTFOOT stated that they have an emphasis now to press hard because they think there is an opportunity to isolate SID STEIN, FRED FINE, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, and all the rest of the same kind, and knock them out of the leadership. He said that this is their objective, and "they want you guys to do it. And, after we're gotten out, they're going after you, and you are the Right. That's their objective. They're not satisfied with you. You know why? Because you don't stand for the status quo. Anybody who moves the status quo one inch, not a yard, is already a Right-winger."

KUSHNER said that the extreme Left would not be satisfied with getting rid of a LIGHTFOOT or a STEIN, or a FRED FINE, -- they don't want a GENE DENNIS in the leadership. LIGHTFOOT said that this was his point, that first the "ultra-Left" must get rid of "us", and then they will go after GENE. But, he said, "right now, they will use GENE and you to get rid of me."

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THOMPSON asked LIGHTFOOT what he proposed to do about the trend in the Party which produces hysteria, mass withdrawals and a JOE CLARK or a JOHN GATES. LIGHTFOOT answered that he proposes fighting -- getting out and proving that this Party has a Vanguard role to play, proving the Party is not an obstacle, and that the Party can play a role in the mass struggle. LIGHTFOOT said nobody has tried to do this and, to support his statement, offered to recite the agenda at every National Committee meeting. He said that the National Committee meetings have not been, in the main, mobilizing meetings for the mass activities. He said that nothing had happened eleven months after the convention and that one good reason for this is that nobody has taken a good look at doing it. He said it cannot be done unless there is a program worked out and a checkup and control on the program, such as the Party carried out in connection with the Prayer Pilgrimage in May, 1957.

Concerning the Party program's for mass activities, LIGHTFOOT said that the Prayer Pilgrimage and the campaign against nuclear weapons were the only significant accomplishments of the Party and that these issues were handled by the National Committee because of the mass pressure and because the Party plainly saw its role.

MORRIS CHILDS stated that the Party could not carry on a struggle for peace with the American working class if it feared too much identity with an international movement.

THOMPSON stated that if one is a little bit influenced by the STAROBIN concept or the CLARK concept or the GATES concept that the Party doesn't really amount to very much and doesn't really have a job to perform, that it is an obstacle and the best thing would be to get the regroupment being sought and that the Forums are important-- when this idea begins to permeate the thinking of important Party cadre and forces and there is no development of an ideological struggle against this -- LIGHTFOOT interrupted, to state that he does not believe that this is the case.

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He suggested that the Minnesota District which has a Right leadership, has done more programmatical work. THOMPSON stated that he did not know the character of the Minnesota leadership but that he did know CARL ROSS. LIGHTFOOT stated that activity exists under Right-led leadership and it also exists under Left-led leadership. He said that in California, on the United Nations anniversary, there was a Party program to mobilize the comrades in both the Right-led and Left-led organizations. New York had such a program on the Stockholm Peace petitions. He said his position was that activity in the Party affects both the Right and Left. He said that many comrades looked back to five years ago and hoped to go back that far in terms of ability but they sit paralyzed when they are told to issue some leaflets.

THOMPSON referred to the unemployment situation developing in the city and said that at a meeting he attended on the night before, a program was being formulated which could be brought into the CIO Council and the central trades and labor councils. He mentioned the slow-up in processing unemployment compensation and other demands concerning unemployment compensation as a illustration of issues which the Party could work on.

LIGHTFOOT stated that if they could come into a National Committee meeting or a meeting in the New York, Illinois or Minnesota Districts and show some problems and how they were handled by the Party, more would be gained from this than from continually attacking the particular problem which started the "rigamarole", in which the Party finds itself. He said he would put the Party on a good mass program.

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LMORRIS CHILDS stated that good examples may be cited in California and other districts and that New York had done some of the best work. He said that he had heard of a sub-committee which the Party doesn't know about and the membership doesn't know about, but which works in a broad way in the united front and which led to the implementation of Party ideas by broader masses of people.

LIGHTFOOT, discussing a proposed declaration of principles on what the Party stands for, said that this declaration was to be based on a number of decisions of the National Convention. He said that this document would have no validity unless THOMPSON, DENNIS, STEIN, FINE and the California District all commonly agree on it, not just one or the other.

CHILDS stated that he did not agree with the people who say there must be a split in the Party and that he believes they should save as much of the Party as possible. He said he did not agree to a one-sided leadership, even if it represented a majority viewpoint of the Party. Some of the others would have to participate, even if they were holding back their viewpoint, because they cannot be a minority outside the leadership. LIGHTFOOT commented that he believes that what is left in the Party is mainly the Left. He said that this is the composition of the Party and he believes it is unnatural for an NEC which does not represent a majority.

LIGHTFOOT stated that he would loyally carry out the decisions of the majority but that he wants to make his position clear for the record. Although he will loyally carry out these decisions, he will not promise what he will do if he differs. He stated that JOHN GATES was being used as a scapegoat and pointed out that EARL BROWDER had been "scapegoated to death". He said that this attitude does not give sufficient weight to the responsibility of all the other individuals connected with Party leadership.

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LIGHTFOOT said it is possible that he does not represent all the people in the Illinois District and, from this point of view, the other people probably should get somebody to represent them. He stated that anyone would have a real fight in trying to get him removed from the National Committee, but that there would be no fight against efforts to remove him from the NEC.

Concluding this discussion, LIGHTFOOT stated that in a report which he is preparing, he intends to "debunk" the idea that you have to have ideological clarity before you do mass work. He said he was prepared to argue this question with THOMPSON or anybody else, because he has given it considerable thought.

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (100-33741)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - ORGANIZATION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: 2/18/58

CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN REPORTING THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF
THE INFORMANT.

- 10 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100-27452 ROBERT THOMPSON)
 - (1 - 100-23825 BENJAMIN DAVIS)
 - (1 - 100-1696 ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN)
 - (1 - 100-9365 WILLIAM Z. FOSTER)
 - (1 - 100- IRVING HERMAN)
 - (1 - 100-87211 CP, USA - FACTIONALISM)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP)
 - (1 - 97-169 PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS)(7-2)
- 2 - Detroit (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100-13420 CARL WINTER)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
- 3 - Indianapolis (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100- MANNY BLUM)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- 5 - Milwaukee (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100- [REDACTED])
 - (1 - 100- [REDACTED])
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- 2 - Minneapolis (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100- CARL ROSS)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)

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(Additional copies set forth on following page)

100-80638-1396

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 19 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

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15 - Chicago

- (1 - 61-867 CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
- (1 - 100-2748 SAM KUSHNER)
- (1 - 100-18001 FRED FINE)
- (1 - 100-2749 [REDACTED])
- (1 - 100-33756 CP, USA - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- (1 - 100-33728 CP, USA - FACTIONALISM)
- (1 - 100-33737 CP, USA - PUBLICATIONS AND PAMPHLETS)
- (1 - 100-18952 CP OF ILLINOIS - MEMBERSHIP)
- (1 - 100-19431 CP OF ILLINOIS - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- (1 - 100-34437 CP, USA - ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE MASS ORGANIZATIONS)
- (1 - 100-8009 COMINFIL - UNITED PACKING HOUSE WORKERS OF AMERICA, CIO)
- (1 - 100-22014 CP OF ILLINOIS - FOSTER DIVISION)
- (1 - 100-18953 CP OF ILLINOIS - ORGANIZATION)
- (1 - 100-24729 EMANUEL BLUM)

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CG 6202-S* on January 29, 1958, made available information which indicated that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, Chairman, CP of Illinois, had held discussions on January 29, 1958, with ROBERT THOMPSON, member of the CP, USA, National Committee (NC) and the National Executive Committee (NEC) at CP headquarters, 36 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois. The comments of these individuals during these discussions were as follows:

ROBERT THOMPSON indicated that during his stay in the Chicago area he had been having a series of meetings which he stated he had enjoyed very much. He indicated he had attended a meeting where the matter of registration was raised as a reminder by [REDACTED].

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At this point, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT indicated to THOMPSON his interest in finding something to do but stated that at this time he has no trade and can do nothing, however, he wanted to learn something. LIGHTFOOT stated that he had never thought of being anything except a Party functionary except at one period shortly after he had gotten out of the Army, at which time he felt he wanted to take advantage of the GI Bill of Rights, but something had interferred. He stated that a second thought on his mind was that possibly a Left of Center leader might be found in the Illinois District. He stated that he feels that almost no one else will have his job in the District.

He stated that he favors a new set of leaders whether the headquarters of the CP moves to Chicago or not.

THOMPSON at this point stated that he sympathized with LIGHTFOOT's position and suggested to LIGHTFOOT that possibly shoe repair or welding held possibilities. THOMPSON pointed out to LIGHTFOOT, however, that LIGHTFOOT is included among his group of people who represents something. THOMPSON stated that BEN DAVIS, ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN and BILL FOSTER are others of this type. THOMPSON noted that it would be difficult to replace LIGHTFOOT and he wondered if LIGHTFOOT would not consider the possibility of not a full-time but a part-time participation in the leadership while LIGHTFOOT was acquiring a trade.

LIGHTFOOT stated that this sort of suggestion interests him and he recalled that he, in the past, had made it possible for others to do that, among them IRVING HERMAN. At this point, SAM KUSHNER joined LIGHTFOOT and THOMPSON, and LIGHTFOOT continued his remarks by stating that he felt that FRED FINE might have provided the answer once as Executive Secretary. THOMPSON responded by stating that he did not know what FRED is going to do and LIGHTFOOT then declared that FINE had only one thing in mind and that was DO (District Organizer) of the District.

LIGHTFOOT then commented that so far as the leadership is concerned, at one time a leadership of CARL WINTER, CARL ROSS and LIGHTFOOT was suggested. LIGHTFOOT stated that CARL WINTER would not leave Detroit and CARL ROSS would not leave Minnesota. LIGHTFOOT continued by stating that the Party cannot have a leadership formed from the Right of Center group, that will have the confidence of the Party as a whole and that this fact is likewise also true of the ultra-Left. LIGHTFOOT noted that the way conditions are, groups move so that the Center today will be the Right tomorrow. He pointed out that people like himself were not considered in the Right group at the time of the National Convention. LIGHTFOOT repeated that even if a leadership around the Center is formed, he feels it will not last unless other problems are solved. He noted that it was not to his liking to be forced to say such things as SAM KUSHNER is Left of Center, etc. He said all of them are Communists.

At this point, ROBERT THOMPSON left the discussion and LIGHTFOOT continued the discussion with KUSHNER by stating that ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN is going to have a voice in the editorial policy of "The Worker" and yet she is not going to be a part of the business staff.

At this point of the discussion KUSHNER interjected the comment to the effect that with regard to the tenement fires now occurring on the south side of Chicago, he is in favor

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of raising the point of the "Ghetto" which the Negro people cannot move out of. He commented that so far as Mayor DALEY is concerned, DALEY talks about everything except open occupancy all over Chicago.

At this point CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT continued commenting by stating that he recalled he had sent to CARL WINTER a letter via SAM KUSHNER and he wondered whether CARL WINTER said anything in response to this letter. KUSHNER replied that CARL WINTER had stated he would see CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT in New York before the National Committee Meeting.

KUSHNER also noted that CARL WINTER had commented on the moving of the CP headquarters to Chicago and had stated if it were moved he would come to Chicago at least once a month. KUSHNER also noted that WINTER had become quite "hot" over the Indiana Labor Policy Statement and had told KUSHNER that there had been some contacting of shop comrades in his District and he had been plenty angry about it. KUSHNER stated that WINTER's reaction to the idea of ground rules for discussion was a fear that unless the Party develops a program of mass work and at the same time works on ideological differences, the situation would end up worse than it is now.

At this point LIGHTFOOT stated that he was all for mass work and that some suggestions would have to be made in the Illinois State Committee. LIGHTFOOT said "they" all should be "kicking" themselves because of the shop program "they" had in the past when in shop branches every month 30,000 papers were gotten out. He said that now there is nothing. He said he had seen a leaflet from Cleveland and it wasn't a question of whether it had content or not but the good thing was to see something like that gotten out.

KUSHNER then recalled that he remembered those days and said that the Illinois District for ten years had the best history in so far as shop papers were concerned. He noted that even in the worse days of MC CARTHY, papers were put out

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at steel gates and at electromotive gates. KUSHNER stated he felt that a very concrete question could be put to the State Committee as to what should be done about this. KUSHNER stated that he was in favor of re-establishing papers with a mechanism for distribution of literature from a corps of comrades who are assigned to important issues in the name of the party.

LIGHTFOOT stated that he favors the introduction of a resolution in the State Committee directing the State Board to bring into the following meeting of the State Committee, a plan for realizing a plan of work on what is going to be done in the fight for peace, the fight for Negro rights and the fight for the trade union movement.

At this point ROBERT THOMPSON again joined the discussion and LIGHTFOOT stated that he wondered whether or not there is anything in the atmosphere today which would suggest that the Party could get people to join with the Party on such issues as the ROSENBERG Case. LIGHTFOOT stated that he could answer this question by saying that the Party has done nothing so that such a determination could be made. LIGHTFOOT commented that he recalled in the Stockholm Peace Pledge Campaign the Party membership had been really "geared". He noted that today people say on other issues that nothing could be done because the Party is isolated and hence there is inactivity. LIGHTFOOT stated that he was of the opinion that part of the low morale is due not to the Right-Left debate but is due to the manner in which people see themselves as having no usefulness.

At this point LIGHTFOOT asked ROBERT THOMPSON about his trip to Wisconsin and THOMPSON responded by stating that he had a series of individual discussions with comrades from American Motors and further that he had talked with one individual from the AF of L. He also noted that he had had a long talk with [redacted] and the District Organizer.

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LIGHTFOOT inquired of THOMPSON about the registration in Wisconsin and THOMPSON stated that in the extreme up-state area 40 individuals were registered, which, according to the Wisconsin people, represents almost no loss. THOMPSON then interjected the comment to the effect that some discussions were had in Wisconsin on the question of getting together some of the dairy farmers on the basis of the difficulty in disposing of milk.

LIGHTFOOT then asked THOMPSON about the membership in Wisconsin and THOMPSON indicated the number 280 and stated that there was no full-time functionary. THOMPSON stated that he guessed the nearest person to a functionary in Wisconsin is [redacted] who is in a bookshop. LIGHTFOOT then inquired of THOMPSON whether or not he, THOMPSON, would have a chance to meet any of the people from Indiana. THOMPSON indicated that he would not.

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At this point LIGHTFOOT declared that packing had been the brightest star in the Party's group, however, now it is slipping away. He noted that some effort would have to be exerted in this connection and that what would have to be done would be to start at the bottom of some selected industries. He stated he is not worried too much about the "top". LIGHTFOOT then asked SAM KUSHNER if he will go to packing tonight. KUSHNER responded by stating that he had three meetings this night and commented to the effect that he was flabbergasted about one group of the Right wing which inclined toward the Indiana Labor Document on the basis that it represented a "clear cut line".

At this point LIGHTFOOT stated that he wondered whether THOMPSON would be adverse to coming to Chicago (apparently referring to the CP headquarters move to Chicago) and added that he did not wish to pin THOMPSON down but he thinks this is a matter which should be explored. LIGHTFOOT stated that he

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seemed to gather from THOMPSON that THOMPSON's feelings in this matter are governed in some degree by the attitude of the government toward his case.

The discussion terminated at this point.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM *** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-18953)
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
ILLINOIS DISTRICT
ORGANIZATION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 2/18/79

CLASSIFIED AND

EXTENDED BY 9803m 5-21-79

REASON FOR EXTENSION

1.05-2

DATE OF REVIEW FOR

DECLASSIFICATION 5-21-89

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in
the past. In February 11, 1958, orally provided SA [redacted]
information reflecting the proceedings of an
Illinois Communist Party State Committee meeting held on
February 8, 1958, in Chicago, Illinois. &

There is enclosed herewith to the Bureau and New York
Office one photostat copy of a four-page document entitled,
"Illinois State Committee Draft Resolution on Internal Situa-
tion", and one photostat copy of a three-page document entitled,
"Draft Illinois Statement (Minority)". The first document is
referred to in this report as the majority report, and was
read by [redacted] as reported on page 2. The second
document is referred to in this report as the minority report,
and was read by [redacted] as reported on page 3. &

The information received was reduced to writing,
initialled [redacted], and will be retained in Chicago file
[redacted] &

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 2) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Detroit (100-) (Cominfil - UAW) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Indianapolis (100-) (CP-USA, Organization) (REGISTERED)
- 2 - New York (Encls. 2) (REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-80641) (CP-USA, Organization) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-87211) (CP-USA, Factionalism) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80638) (CP-USA, Membership) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 97-169) (Publishers New Press) (#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-20128) (ALEXANDER BITTELTMAN) (#7-4)
 - (1 - 100-14606) (JOSEPH CLARK) (#20-11)

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(1 - 100-23825) (BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-81860) [REDACTED] (#12-16)
(1 - 100-9365) (WILLIAM Z. FOSTER) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-17923) (JOHN GATES) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-14859) [REDACTED] (#7-2)
(1 - 100-50090) (SID STEIN) (#19-1)

53 - Chicago

[REDACTED]
(1 - 100-19743) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-694) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-22765) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-22435) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-3470) (MORRIS CHILDS)
(1 - 100-3303) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-18080) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-24020) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-21073) (LESTER DAVIS)
(1 - 100-12890) (EARL DURHAM)
(1 - 100-3301) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-18001) (FRED FINE)
(1 - 100-4031) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-12459) (FLO HALL)
(1 - 100-13763) [REDACTED]
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(1 - 100-2515) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-2748) (SAM KUSHNER)
(1 - 61-867) (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
(1 - 100-21849) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-25269) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-13165) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-3720) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-13332) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-9948) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-16711) [REDACTED]
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(1 - 100-9103) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-18457) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-20289) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-2749) (MOLLIE WEST)
(1 - 100-25191) (Illinois Committee for Freedom of the Press)
(1 - 100-33513) (Provisional Committee to Aid Victims of
Taft-Hartley)
(1 - 100-22011) (CP-USA, Illinois District, Flynn Section)
(1 - 100-22014) (CP-USA, Illinois District, Foster Section)
(1 - 100-8009) (COMINFIL, United Packing House Workers)

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C O P I E S

- (1 - 100-22007)(CP-USA, Illinois District, South Side Section)
- (1 - 100-17965)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Brief)
- (1 - 100-19491)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Domestic Administration Issues)
- (1 - 100-18338)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Education)
- (1 - 100-18963)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Factionalism)
- (1 - 100-17769)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Funds)
- (1 - 100-18961)(CP-USA, Illinois District, International Relations)
- (1 - 100-18954)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Legislative Activities)
- (1 - 100-18952)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Membership)
- (1 - 100-18956)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Negro Question)
- (1 - 100-18209)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Pamphlets and Publications)
- (1 - 100-17917)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Political Activities)
- (1 - 100-19431)(CP-USA, Illinois District, Strategy in Industry)
- (1 - 100-33728)(CP-USA, Factionalism)
- (1 - 100-33741)(CP-USA, Organization)

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February 11, 1958

Type, Date and Place of Meeting

A meeting of the Illinois Communist Party State Committee was held on Saturday, February 8, 1958, at the Mar-Lou Ballroom, 4003 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Illinois. The meeting commenced at approximately 10:55 A.M., and concluded at approximately 5:45 P.M., with forty-five minutes out for lunch.

Persons in Attendance

The following individuals were in attendance at this Illinois Communist Party State Committee meeting. The individuals whose names are preceded by an asterisk are not known to be members of the Illinois Communist Party State Committee:

[REDACTED]

LESTER DAVIS
*EARL DURHAM

[REDACTED]

FRED FINE

[REDACTED]

FLO HALL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SAM KUSHNER
CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

[REDACTED]

MOLLIE WEST

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EARL DURHAM and [REDACTED] are not known to be members of the Illinois Communist Party State Committee, but as members of the Communist Party National Committee are authorized to attend these meetings. It was observed that [REDACTED] even though not authorized to do so, voted on some of the motions and amendments. EARL DURHAM did not vote, but took part in the discussions.

[REDACTED] was invited to the meeting as a representative of the Flynn Section, Illinois Communist Party. [REDACTED] did not vote on any of the motions or amendments.

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Among the State Committee members not in attendance were: MORRIS CHILDS, who was ill; [REDACTED], who is in California; [REDACTED], who is reportedly seriously ill; and [REDACTED] who refuses to attend all-day meetings.

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Agenda

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT opened the meeting at approximately 10:55 A.M. and proposed the following agenda, which was accepted:

- (1) Majority and minority reports issued by the Illinois Communist Party State sub-Committee.
- (2) Worker Drive.
- (3) Other resolutions.
- (4) Good and welfare, including Negro work, civil liberties, and Chicago South side fires.

LIGHTFOOT proposed that [] serve as Chairman of the meeting, which was approved. LESTER DAVIS acted as Recording Secretary.

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Majority Report

[] presented the majority report, stating that a special committee, composed of SAM KUSHNER, [] and himself, had worked together in preparing statements of the Illinois Communist Party State Committee. He said that he and KUSHNER had prepared the majority report, and [] prepared the minority report. AL RUBIO had originally been a member of this special committee, but had been unable to serve. MORRIS CHILDS was also to have assisted in the preparation of the majority report, but was ill during its preparation.

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[] then read the majority report. He said, after completing this reading, that the report tended to place equal emphasis on Left sectarianism and Right revisionism. At the time of the 16th National Convention, it was his opinion that sectarianism was the main danger; however, we should realize that a change has taken place since then. In his opinion, at the present time revisionism is the main danger.

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[] went on to say that there has been an ascendancy of sectarianism since the 16th National Convention, and mentioned the situations that had occurred in the Soviet, Italian, Chinese and Polish Parties. He said that due to the internal strife in the Communist Party and several other

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external factors, it is his feeling that regardless of sectarian tendencies, revisionism is today the main danger.

[] said that he must be self-critical in that he was wrong in feeling that the question of Hungary could remain unsolved. He had failed to call vigorously for the GATES resignation. He failed to point out the danger of Right revisionism, thinking that this would be an encroachment on the legitimate discussion concerning the Party.

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Minority Report

[] then delivered the minority report, and from this time on served as spokesman for the ultra-Left faction in the Illinois Communist Party State Committee. After completing his report, [] said that there were several points of agreement between the majority and minority reports; however, in an over-all analysis, while the majority report started from a correct premise, it drew an incorrect conclusion. He said that the danger of the majority report was that it tended to place equal emphasis on the dangers of sectarianism and revisionism. He contended it is impossible to equally equate dogmatism or Left sectarianism with revisionism. Consequently, the fight today must be a vigorous fight against the revisionist trend. [] said that everyone knows that peaceful transition is possible only under certain conditions, and although everyone desires peaceful transition, the facts of life are that if certain objective conditions do not exist, this peaceful transition will not take place.

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Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT then requested permission on a point of personal privilege to answer both the majority and minority reports. He said that he should be given equal opportunity to state his position which was not in full accord with either the majority or minority reports. The Chairman, [], put this request to a vote, and those in attendance granted LIGHTFOOT permission to deliver his personal report.

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LIGHTFOOT said that since the 16th National Convention there have been forces within the Party whose main aim in life seems to be to have the decisions of the 16th National Convention upheld. This fight has been waged on two fronts -- one led by WILLIAM Z. FOSTER and BEN DAVIS on one hand, and SID STEIN and FRED FINE on the other. Both constituted

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themselves as guardians of the 16th National Convention, while both shaded its decisions in different directions. LIGHTFOOT said that the two documents issued by the Communist Party National Executive Committee, which presented an estimate of the Party's work since the 16th National Convention, represented a reversal of the line and direction of the 16th National Convention. He said that he did not completely agree with the STEIN document, nor can he agree that Right revisionism and Left sectarianism are equal dangers.

LIGHTFOOT then moved to citing examples in an attempt to show that Right revisionism has not risen since the National Convention. He stated that a personal examination of editorials appearing in "The Worker" prior to the National Convention and the editorials appearing after the National Convention have shown that there were infinitely more Right revisionist trends expressed in the pages of "The Worker" prior to the Convention than after. Notwithstanding all the "hullabaloo" that has been raised, this is definitely true. LIGHTFOOT contended that the cry against Right revisionism as being a great and current danger within the movement is a cry of "wolf". Facing the fact that six thousand people in New York have left the Communist Party and a like number throughout the rest of the country, it is obvious that what is left of the Party is a Left wing and there is no more Right wing element.

LIGHTFOOT said that there may be Right trends within the Left wing, but today the American Communist Party is a Left oriented Party. So, where then is the Right revisionist thinking? Among the leadership, those who constituted the vocal Right and those who tended to follow and vote with the Right have either resigned or in one way or another left the Party. Therefore, there is no basis for saying that Right revisionism constitutes the main danger to the American Party.

LIGHTFOOT then challenged anyone in attendance at this meeting to point to a single act or dogma advanced by the Party which could be interpreted as a Right revisionist concept.

LIGHTFOOT then introduced an amendment to the majority report, which, he said, if approved, would permit him to accept the majority report. This amendment is as follows:

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"We re-affirm the following recommendations of the 16th National Convention. To end its isolation and expand its mass work, the main task of the Party today is to overcome completely the influence of Left sectarian policies and tactics in all fields of work. In the process of carrying out the main task, the Party must struggle against existent Right opportunist tendencies, combatting them at all times. This is especially necessary in view of the extremely sharp turn which the Party is now making in many of its basic policies. The necessary struggle against Right opportunist errors must be carried on in such a way as not to weaken the main task."

LIGHTFOOT emphasized that while he recognizes there are some Right revisionist trends, Left sectarianism is the main danger to the Communist Party at the present time.

LIGHTFOOT then pointed out that a number of people have left the Party feeling that it had no future and could not play a vanguard role. LIGHTFOOT said that he will not leave the Party nor will he leave a leadership position. He said that he strongly encourages a re-organization of leadership, encourages a national consultative conference, and encourages any action that will bring an end to this interminable debate. He said that they may accept or reject him in the future, but he hopes that a leadership can be found that will bring about a change for the better. LIGHTFOOT said that he does intend to leave the day-by-day active leadership, but will not depart from the policy leadership. He indicated that he intends to resign from the National Executive Committee, but not the National Committee. He intends to give up the position of Chairman in the Illinois Communist Party District.

LIGHTFOOT concluded his statements by saying that we need a re-affirmation of the decisions of the 16th National Convention. Ideas are not valid one moment and invalid the next. Then he quoted from the National Convention statement, which said that Left sectarianism had been the main danger for a considerable period. He said that certainly nothing has occurred since that time to make Right opportunism the main danger and to bring it on a par with Left sectarianism. For this reason, he would have to reject the majority report which equally emphasizes the dangers of both revisionism and

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sectarianism. Regarding the minority report, he is in total disagreement with its finding that revisionism is the main danger.

Remarks of JAMES WEST

[] stated that he is heartened by the feeling that we are now reaching some clarity, even though we have not reached unity. Clarity is a major step in obtaining unity. He said that several amendments were necessary to make the majority report totally acceptable. [] said that the majority report, in his opinion, dealt a little more clearly with the present crisis in the Party than the minority report.

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[] then read a list of amendments which he had prepared and which were to be considered as amendments to the majority report. It was decided that the amendments would not be voted on at this time, but would be voted on after the discussion.

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Remarks of FRED FINE

FRED FINE stated that both the majority and minority reports admitted that the Party crisis is grave. It is grave because our isolation has grown. He said that many persons have appointed themselves guardians of the 16th National Convention decisions, shading these decisions to fit their own viewpoints. Those in the Left faction shade the National Convention decisions to the Left in their interpretation, and those in the Right shade the decisions to the Right in interpreting them. From both sides there is much hue and cry that the 16th National Convention decisions were not clear, decisive, and did not resolve anything. In order for changes to occur, there must be objective reasons for either the Right or Left forces to become dominant.

FINE said, Let us examine the objective situation. If we work on a theory that objective bases exist for the development of a Right opportunist danger within the Party, then let us examine these objective bases.

First, we face a situation where unemployment has risen. Does this seem to be an objective situation for a Right danger? To the contrary, history shows that the Party's opportunities for leading the masses are greatest in these periods. Then the consistency of attacks against the Party

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have abated and lessened considerably, which would again seem to be an objective basis for development of a Left rather than a Right shift. In questions of civil rights, there have been many significant strides forward. This is an objective fact which would seem to negate the claims of the Left that there is a Right danger.

FINE challenged anyone to show one single factor or point in our peace movement that could be termed Right revisionism. In labor, in civil rights, and in every major struggle throughout the country, the situation is ripe for raising Left slogans. The theory of a Right danger does not have a base. In looking at the over-all subjective factors, everything seems to negate the concept of a Right opportunist danger.

FINE continued by stating that you have the situation in which GATES, MAX and CLARK, the most eloquent spokesmen of the Right, left the Party and with them significant sections of the Party. In considering the labor policy statement, it is impossible to say that this is a Right opportunist statement. All of the factors add up to prove that objectively there is no Right danger and the feeling that there is exists only in the minds of the extreme crusading Left. We have a crusading Left within the Party, who have taken on to themselves the role of purgers. The purge is going on, gentlemen, but I warn you, that I and people like myself will not leave the Party. You cannot purge us. You have devastated and decimated the Party in an attempt to accomplish your ends. Purge, if you will, but what you will end up with is no Party at all, and history will not reward you but will condemn you. For at a time when America needs a dissenting voice, needs a militant workers' Party, these purgers frustrate and hogtie the Party, rendering it impossible to play any vanguard role.

FINE was extremely emotional in delivering his remarks, which were directed toward the ultra-Left faction in the Illinois District.

Remarks of []

[] said that we must develop our methods of work in such a manner as to end our isolation. We must develop our vanguard role. [] said that revisionism certainly exists and is certainly being vigorously fought by the crusading Left. Possibly the Left can be called crusading, but this occurs because

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of an absence of any action or participation by the Party itself. It arises out of a vacuum and since no one is reacting to objective factors in our society, it is only normal that the most vocal and eloquent elements would take the lead. This is a tragedy and something to be corrected. The only solution is to activate the Party so that it has a program and approach which would make it impossible for one faction to dominate.

[] disagreed with FRED FINE, and stated that his tactics in attempting to show that the objective factors do not favor the Right could also be used by the Left in showing that they are not favorable to the Left. Any of the objective factors listed by FINE would be equally valid on either side of the fence, whether Right or Left.

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Remarks of []

[] said that revisionism is the main danger. The 16th National Convention provided us no clear-cut line or direction. As a result, the main danger is Right revisionism and our leadership does not have the confidence of the Left forces.

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[] said that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was correct in stating that the Illinois Communist Party District may accept or reject him, and his continuation in a leadership position would depend on the positions he takes.

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CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT at this point stated that it is true that he can be removed from a leadership position, but not by this body. He holds and is elected to a national leadership position by national forces, and these are the only forces that can remove him.

[] continued that we must get down to work, but should face every controversy with an open mind. [] notwithstanding, voted with the ultra-Left without exception.

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Remarks of []

[] said that we have to go to work. Before LIGHTFOOT's and FINE's statements can be refuted, the Left must convince us that their position is correct. LIGHTFOOT and FINE have reached the correct conclusion, unless the Left provides us with more convincing arguments.

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Remarks of [redacted]

[redacted] stated that both the majority and minority reports present facts, which are similar facts, but their conclusions differ. How can you equate whether there is a Right or a Left danger without a yardstick? In the past, you were always able to measure deviations based on a Party position, and those who deviated one way or the other were easily recognized. Today, there is no clear-cut Party direction on anything and, therefore, it is impossible to recognize either Right or Left trends. [redacted] said that she strongly urges the Party to take a position on the main issues of the day and thereby provide a yardstick by which deviations can be measured.

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Remarks of [redacted]

[redacted] said that he is in absolute agreement with the minority report. He said that the Left is crusading, but this is because no one else is doing anything. The Party has to answer the questions of the guys in the mills. The Party must take a position and the Left crusades because the Party refuses. This State Committee must answer the problems of the workers.

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[redacted] then cited examples that had occurred in contacts with non-Party workers. Those workers who ride with me say that they are with me, but when I try to get them to explain their positions on certain issues, they point to threats against them. Many of these guys are comrades in many ways, but they take action against Negro people simply from fear. This gives them a sense of security. Here the Party has been very, very lax in not providing these people answers to their questions.

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Remarks of [redacted]

[redacted] stated that we cannot lead the workers because we have not learned how to give leadership. GATES floundered on the same rocks as BROWDER in his struggle against dogmatism. GATES was a sincere individual, who had many logical approaches to various questions, but in the fight against dogmatism he permitted himself to flounder in the same manner as BROWDER. [redacted] said that he supports the amendment of LIGHTFOOT and will vote for it. [redacted] remains as one of the few remaining Right of Center persons in the Illinois District.

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Remarks of SAM KUSHNER

SAM KUSHNER stated that he wants to retain our Party and common sense without floundering on the rocks of sectarianism. We have less people in Sections today than we used to have in clubs. CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was correct in stating that there was more revisionism before the 16th National Convention than after. Some of our comrades have assumed the role of champions of the Convention decisions, but they always shade them in their direction. The danger exists in both directions. He said that he is completely opposed to revisionism. Revisionism, however, exists not only on the Right, but also on the Left. Our comrades should specifically state their true opinions and not lay back waiting to pounce. He said that he has been in the Communist Party all of his mature life and has always fought against anarchy. He would recommend moving the Communist Party headquarters to Chicago and not permit this issue to become a political football. We should move the headquarters to Chicago, regardless of factional motives. Let us not retreat into the past.

Remarks of EARL DURHAM

EARL DURHAM said that he agreed with the majority report. The document very correctly places the general task of the Communist Party as overcoming the present isolation. If revisionism is the impeding force, let us fill the vacuum which makes revisionism possible. Fill the vacuum with concrete action. Only in getting down to work and testing our theories in the field of battle will we be able to come to any correct decisions. This is the cause for our isolation.

Remarks of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that the Communist Party can be just as isolated with a revisionist policy as with a sectarian policy.

At this time, FRED FINE jumped up and said that he took exception to this statement. He asked [REDACTED] if this was the decision of the 7th Congress.

[REDACTED] said that her theory is that tailing behind the workers and not doing anything is revisionism and opportunism, and this creates isolation. She said that purging

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should not be permitted, but maintains that revisionism is the main danger facing the international working class movement today.

Remarks of [redacted]

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[redacted] said that we must fight for a Party position. Too many comrades have developed such hard and fast Party positions that it is impossible for them to think rationally. She resents being placed in the position of having to adopt either a Right or Left position. The whole theory of democratic centralism needs to be clarified. How can we grope for answers and consider questions within the framework of democratic centralism. We are not in a position to purge anyone, but rather we should be concerned with recapturing those we have lost. She concluded by stating that we have to struggle on both sides, against both extremes.

Remarks of LESTER DAVIS

LESTER DAVIS compared this situation to one wherein a house is burning down and two rival fire engine companies deliberate as to who has the responsibility, and all the while the house is burning. A similar situation occurs where a Right and Center fielder try to decide who should catch the ball, while it drops between them. He said he would rather not vote on either of these reports because he does not feel they are going to solve the problems.

DAVIS said that when he joined the movement it was a forward moving, progressive organization, but today it has degenerated into a debating society. History will not recall whether the Party took a Right or Left position on these questions, but whether they had any impact on the affairs of the era. The main danger is neither Right nor Left, but inactivity. Everyone appears to have a closed mind and no one has changed his position one iota. The workers are not concerned whether we are Right or Left, but what is our position on Negro rights, open housing, the Chicago fires, taxes, and the problems affecting them. DAVIS said that he would urge that neither report be adopted, since the side that lost would consider themselves victims and would engage in further factional fights.

Remarks of [redacted]

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[redacted] took issue with LESTER DAVIS, stating

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that we cannot struggle around questions without having correct ideological lines. She said that she respects [redacted] self-critical approach, and feels that more of us should be self-critical. She said that she agrees vehemently with the minority report. Others should have the courage to take a position.

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Remarks of FLO HALL

FLO HALL said that she agrees with the majority report and does not want to be thought of as taking either an extreme Left or extreme Right position. We must solve the problems of bringing the role of the worker into sharper focus. She said that adoption of EARL DURHAM's position would not stand up, since neither position is flexible enough to test theories.

Remarks of [redacted]

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[redacted] said that the forces of the world are divided into two camps -- Capitalist and Communist. In reference to the current debate, he does not want to be a General without an army. There are all types of conflicting documents, many coming from Sections in industry. In all fairness, the concept that the Party is unable to act must be defeated. The Party is capable of assuming a role in the struggles of the workers.

Amendments and Voting

Then ensued a heated debate on which report to vote for, first.

One group advocated that the amendments should be voted on first.

LESTER DAVIS said that this could not be done without first stating whether the amendment was to amend the minority or majority report. He proposed that from a parliamentary standpoint, the correct procedure would be to vote one of the reports up or down and then, if the first report was defeated, the second report would be made the order of business. Amendments to this report would then be considered. It was agreed that this procedure would be followed.

[redacted] then stated that he would agree to

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withdraw his minority report and approve the majority report if the amendments previously introduced by [] were voted on, approved and made a part of the majority report.

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FRED FINE then jumped from his seat again and said that this was ridiculous, since any report could be amended by an opposing group which would make the report acceptable to them, but which would then make the report unacceptable to the original proposers.

It was decided that the minority report would be voted on first because it was the last one presented.

The minority report was defeated by a vote of 7 for, 15 against, and no abstentions. Those voting for the minority report were the individuals who can be characterized as taking a far Left position, and include []

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At this time, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT's amendment was presented as a separate resolution. In effect, it would have amended the majority report. This amendment was defeated by a vote of 7 for, 14 against, and one abstention. Those voting for the LIGHTFOOT amendment were CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, FRED FINE, LESTER DAVIS, [] and, as recalled, []. These individuals compose the Middle or slightly Right of Center faction on the Illinois State Committee, although SHARPE has previously held a Left position. The other two voters are not known.

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[] then presented a series of amendments to the majority report. The following are the amendments to the majority report:

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Add to end of 6th paragraph, page 1:

"At a time when differences and confusion on basic principles exist in the Party, the Party must preserve and fight for its existence and unity on the basis of the organizational principles of Marxism-Leninism. It is these principles which provide the basis for resolving differences and to insure that differences over principle are not allowed to degenerate into unprincipled factional struggle. It is a tragic feature of our

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Party in a situation that there has been a breakdown in democratic centralism and a rise of suicidal factionalism. The principles and practices of democratic centralism must be restored immediately and all factionalism rooted out."

The above amendment was approved by a vote of 13 for, 4 against, and 3 abstentions. This was a conciliatory amendment and created a great deal of unity. It came the closest to breaking the deadlock between the ultra-Left and the Middle or Left of Center forces.

Add to end of second paragraph, page 3:

"The Marxist-Leninist Party must at all times wage a struggle on two fronts. Does this mean there is no such thing as a main danger? No. The main danger is the one we cease to fight against at any given moment. At this hour in the life of our Party, defeatism, capitulation and revisionism are the main dangers. These immediate dangers occur against the background of our historic task of overcoming isolation."

This amendment was defeated by a vote of 9 for and 13 against. This amendment was an effort to characterize revisionism as the main danger.

Insert, last paragraph, page 2, 7th line from bottom where sentence concludes "Marxist Method"

"The development of an autonomous road to Socialism in the USA - which is the task of the CPUSA - cannot occur in opposition or contradiction to the principles of international solidarity or in opposition to the objective fact that the pivot of that international solidarity is the first, most experienced and strongest land of Socialism - Soviet Union."

This amendment was approved by a vote of 10 for, 1 against, and 9 abstaining. LIGHTFOOT was the only individual to vote against this amendment.

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Add to point 5, page 4, the following:

"This conference, called in accord with the Party Constitution - must be empowered to make such changes in the NEC and the NAC as will unite the Party on sound Marxist-Leninist principles as understood by that conference."

This amendment passed by a vote of 10 for, 3 against, and 6 abstaining.

Add an additional resolution on page 4 of report as follows:

"The Illinois State Committee re-affirm its support to 16th Convention decision to move the National Center to Chicago and urges this be done with the least possible delay."

This amendment passed by a vote of 17 for, 1 against, and 3 abstaining. The one vote against this amendment was believed to be [redacted]

[redacted] then introduced a resolution calling for the Illinois State Committee to urge the Communist Party National Committee to call a special convention to consider the present problems. This resolution was passed by a vote of 9 for, 7 opposed and 5 abstentions.

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A vote was then taken on the majority report as amended, and passed by a vote of 14 for, 5 against, and one abstention. Those voting against this report were believed to be [redacted] and [redacted]

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Discussion Around "The Worker" and Illinois Communist Party Registrations

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT spoke on "The Worker" drive, stating that we cannot debate defeatism out of existence but must fight it out. In Illinois, we have been able to maintain circulation of "The Worker" as the results of the efforts of a few people. This State Committee must adopt the position that this "The Worker" drive must be carried through. The weekend of March

~~(CONFIDENTIAL)~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

15-16, 1958, must be a period of complete mobilization in which every Party member will participate. The State Committee has the primary responsibility to see that this mobilization is carried through.

LIGHTFOOT said that around the registration there is no certainty that we will register 10,000 nationally as was assumed. In Illinois, the estimate of 700, unless there is a radical change, will not be reached. We have registered 28 out of a division where once there were 2,000. LIGHTFOOT appointed a special committee, composed of EARL DURHAM, LESTER DAVIS and himself, to complete South Side registrations, with special emphasis placed on the South Side and Packing Sections. Both of these Sections are lagging far behind their respective goals.

Remarks of [redacted]

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[redacted] said that she is very happy and pleasantly surprised to see the attention that is being given "The Worker". She is elated that "The Worker" problems have been elevated to a substantial stage on the agenda. She said that much work has to be done to carry out area mobilization. She said that she was happy to report that the last "The Worker" affair raised \$600 to \$700, and by so doing we reached our \$5,000 quota.

Remarks of [redacted]

[redacted] said that the registrations should have been completed by the end of January, 1958. She said that the clubs are not going out and registering those people not attending meetings. The registering of only those people we see must stop.

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[redacted] said that we must arrange to get the paper to those who will not permit it to come to their homes. We can obtain many subscriptions if we can make such arrangements. Every club has the responsibility of seeing that this drive is successfully completed.

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Remarks of [redacted]

[redacted] said that in his Section only five individuals have not as yet registered, and they will be registered

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

by the end of the week. He also challenged anyone on the State Committee to obtain more "The Worker" subscriptions from his plant than he will obtain from his.

Remarks of SAM KUSHNER

SAM KUSHNER said that figures are misleading. Three Sections have done most of the work around "The Worker" drive. He said that at the United Auto Workers Convention, a number of workers were observed reading the "Daily Worker". In fact, more than any other paper. He said that the situation has changed in our Party. There was a time when industrial Sections used to constitute 10% of the membership and 20% of the subscriptions. Now, the industrial Sections have 20% of the membership and 10% of the subscriptions.

KUSHNER said that he is happy to report that the District now has an Editorial Committee, composed of nine staff people. Some militant industrial workers are completely destitute and we have to encourage gift subscriptions. There are 50 to 70 people floating around who have not been contacted for some time and we have to consider methods for contacting them.

Remarks of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that the registration is completed in his Section except for one individual, who is presently in the hospital.

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Remarks of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] said that the Flynn Section is now registered 100%.

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At this time, a motion was made to approve the previous statements as a means for ending discussion on these topics. This motion was approved.

Discussion on Chicago South Side
Fires and Open Housing Legislation

Remarks of SAM KUSHNER

SAM KUSHNER said that on the subject of the disastrous

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

fires that have occurred in the South side Negro area, the Communist Party has recognized the need for action and has prepared a leaflet which is presently at the press being printed. There are 10,000 copies being printed and money will be needed to pay the printer.

KUSHNER stated that the Communist Party should provide support for the Holman-Despres Bill, which calls for open occupancy. HOLMAN and DESPRES are Chicago City Councilmen, who have recently proposed such legislation. This legislation is still in the talking stage and a Bill has not yet been introduced in the City Council. KUSHNER said that HOLMAN told him that the Bill would not be introduced until sufficient labor leaders had been contacted and thirty co-sponsors were obtained.

Remarks of []

[] stated that he has been in touch with Councilman DESPRES, who said that they were trying to line up support around such a Bill. A Bill would not be introduced until it was felt that there was enough support to have it passed. [] said that the Party should make the obtaining of such support one of its main tasks.

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Remarks of []

[] stated that there has been a lot of confusion around this proposed legislation because the Packing union has been in touch with HOLMAN, who indicated to them that he was reluctant to sponsor this Bill. The Packing District Council wants to support the Bill, but can take no action because there is no legislation pending.

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Other Business

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT at this time requested quick action on a number of things, noting that it was getting late.

LIGHTFOOT said that he would recommend that the Flynn resolution be referred to the Illinois Communist Party Board. He had invited [] to this meeting in anticipation that the Flynn resolution would be heard. Since there was insufficient time at this meeting, he wanted this to be taken up by the State Board, where it would receive proper attention.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This recommendation by LIGHTFOOT was approved.

Discussion Concerning Illinois Communist
Party Negro Conference

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT then referred to an Illinois conference on Negro work. This conference is to be held in Chicago on March 2, 1958. LIGHTFOOT said that every club in the District should have at least one member in attendance. Preparing for this conference should be one of the main tasks of the Party at the present time.

At this time the question was raised as to where the conference would be held.

LESTER DAVIS, who has the responsibility of obtaining a location for this meeting, said that it has not yet been determined how many individuals would be in attendance, how much money could be spent, and the general locality for the meeting.

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT said that the meeting room should be large enough to accommodate 75 to 100 people, but made no mention of cost or location.

Discussion Concerning Activities of
House Committee on Un-American Activities

It was mentioned that the House Committee on Un-American Activities is presently conducting hearings in Gary, Indiana, on the Communist infiltration of the steel industry. Everyone was urged to attend a meeting at the Essex Community Church on Monday evening, February 10, 1958. This is Reverend WILLIAM BAIRD's church. [redacted] and other individuals interested in civil liberties will be in attendance as speakers at this affair, and will discuss HCUA investigations.

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Finances

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT said that the financial picture is worse than ever. The organization fund is not coming in.

Concluding Comments

MILT COHEN said that the main issue confronting the

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Communist Party today and the thing that bothers him the most is the failure of the Communist Party to attack the peace question. The Party must speak out on the peace question, using its own name.

It was announced that there will be a Taft-Hartley fund-raising meeting on February 15, 1958, at the residence of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] then said that at a previous State Committee meeting it had been decided that the Communist Party would hold three seminars. The sub-committee that had been established had made arrangements to hold these seminars, and they are as follows:

- (1) On March 21, 1958, there will be a city-wide meeting open to Party members at which the subject of the economic situation and the labor program would be discussed. The featured speakers would be FRED FINE and [REDACTED]
- (2) A seminar would be held on April 12, 1958, on the 12 Party statement.
- (3) The final seminar would be held in May, 1958, and would have as its subject, "The Welfare State". ALEXANDER BITTELMAN would be one of the speakers and there would be someone selected to oppose his position.

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CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT then stated that the following action has been taken by the Political Action Committee of the Illinois Communist Party State Board. The members of this committee are SAM KUSHNER, [REDACTED] and himself. He said that a Political Action Committee for the District has been organized and it is suggested that the following persons serve on this committee: [REDACTED] Chairman;

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[REDACTED] LIGHTFOOT's recommendation was approved.

The meeting concluded at approximately 5:45 P.M.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, Minneapolis (100-6379)

February 19, 1958

SA [REDACTED]

CARL ROSS
(IS - C)

PURPOSE:

To record information contained in a written report dated February 5, 1958, received personally from [REDACTED], who has furnished reliable information in the past, by SA [REDACTED] on February 5, 1958. Informant was contacted in the vicinity of 9th Street and Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Informant's written report is filed as [REDACTED]

DETAILS:

Informant's report is set out verbatim:

"Mpls Minn
Febr. 5, 1958

"On this date CARL ROSS Secty of Minnesota District of the Communist Party advised that next week he would attend a meeting in New York City. He stated that at this meeting his group planned to bring about pressure to have National Office of C.P. moved to Chicago. He stated that he expected quite a fight from the left group on this issue. He also stated that the membership figures for New York totalled 7000 last year. They have registered up until this date 1000 members & he feels that the party will be extremely lucky to attain a total of 3000 in New York on its current registration ✓

ACTION:

File copies in designated files.

4 - Minneapolis
(1 - 100-1878, CP)

(1 - 100-6379, CARL ROSS)

① - New York (100-
1 - Chicago (100-

CP MEMBERSHIP)
CP ORGANIZATION)

WPE:CK
(6)

100-80638-1398

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 24 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 24 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

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Photostat of copy
100-188917
(CP - NY Dist -
membership)
Photographic Work
complete on 2/27/58
by Photo Lab. of Field Division

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603-C40)(#12-10) DATE: 2/21/58
FROM : SA [REDACTED] #7
SUBJECT: CP, USA
BRONX COUNTY
IS-C

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Identity of Source [REDACTED] who has furnished
reliable info in past (conceal)
Date of Activity 1/21/58
Date Received 2/3/58
Received by SA [REDACTED] #7
Original located [REDACTED]

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting the following information in order to protect the identity of the informant.

By report dated 1/25/58, [REDACTED] furnished information regarding a meeting of the Kingsbridge area of the Northwest Bronx Section of the CP held 1/21/58.

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A copy of informant's report follows:

[REDACTED]
1 - NY 100-26603-C320 (CP, KINGSBRIDGE)(#12-10)
1 - NY 100-133178 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-101862 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-111325 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100- [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-120276 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-83402 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-108754 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100- (POLA LNU-over 65 yrs. old per [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100- (PAULINE LNU-over 50 yrs. old., per [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-68642 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-25821 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-107444 [REDACTED] (#12-10)

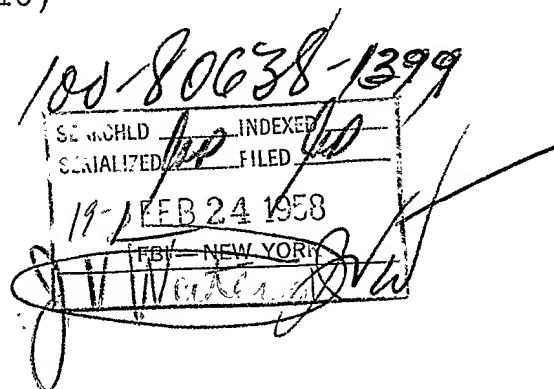
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COPIES CONTINUED PAGE TWO

1 - NY 100-26603-C40 (#12-10)

JPH:MIM
(25)

11/1/58



NY 100-26603-C40

Report Communist Party U. S. A.
 Activities

Jan. 25, 1958

A meeting of the Kingsbridge area of the Northwest Bronx Section of the Communist Party was held on Jan. 21st, 1958 at the apart. of [] at [] Ave., Bronx, N.Y.

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The following members were present at this meeting: []

[] Pola (age-over 65 years), Pauline (age-over 50 years), [] Also present was [] Bronx County press director and [] organizational secretary of the N.Y. State Communist Party.

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[] chaired the meeting.

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The chairman asked for a report from the Registration Committee of the area [] to make a short report on the registration. Lee reported that everyone present here were registered. Some other members who were registered couldn't come to this meeting for different reasons.

COPIES CONTINUED

1 - NY 100-18673
1 - NY 100-80638
1 - NY 100-113156
1 - NY 100-113164
1 - NY 100-
1 - NY 100-
1 - NY 100-87211
1 - NY 100-4931
1 - NY 100-26603
1 - NY 97-169

[] (#19-2)
{ CP. MEMBERSHIP (#19)
[] (#12-10)
[] (#12-10)
{ BILL LNU } (#12-10)
{ TONI LNU } (#12-10)
{ CP, FACTIONALISM } (#19)
{ CP, USA } (#19-1)
{ CP, USA DIST. #2 } (#19-2)
{ WORKER } (#7-2)

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NY 100-26603-C40

[] reported that she has registered some; she has tried to reregister some of those who left the party but "I will have to see them again and again. I am not sure if they will reregister."

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[] reported that she was unable to contact some comrades but she is sure that she will eventually register them. She claimed that [] and her husband (reside at [] [], Bronx, N.Y.) "as far as I can judge will not register. They are under the influence of [] and [] who left the party a few months ago. But I will keep on trying and I will try to see all other comrades within the next two weeks."

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The chairman introduced [] "who will talk on the ideological differences in the party and where are we going from here on?"

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[] said that he could talk a whole month on the subject outlined by the chairman but "I'll start from 'Where are we going from here on?' I wish I knew the answer. I really don't know. Our party is quite disorganized and we are still groping in the dark. There is an improvement in party work in the last few months but we are still far away from being the real effective force in the struggle for Socialism in our country."

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On the question of ideological differences in the party he said that the differences are still "very sharp. I lined up with the majority of the National Committee (C.P.) which is the minority in the State Committee (N.Y.C.P.). We believe that Socialism can be achieved in the United States by peaceful means."

He spoke of Marxism as a "living theory which should be adjusted to conditions and changes" and that "the achievement of socialism in the United States must not follow the exact pattern of the Russian or the Chinese revolution. The dictatorship of the proletariat might take on intirely

different form than the dictatorship of the proletariat took in Russia following the great Bolshevik revolution. Because of the different economic, technical and political conditions which exists in our country leads me to believe that we can achieve socialism by constitutional means. Since the Bolshevik revolution the world situation has changed drastically. The world is definitely going socialist and America will not be able to stay alone in a socialist world. It is clear that the American road to socialism is much different from the Russian struggle for socialism which was the first socialist revolution in the history of mankind. Naturally that the dictatorship of the proletariat in the Soviet Union had to take the form that it took but this doesn't mean that the dictatorship of the proletariat will have to be applied in the United States in the same form as it was in Russia or in China. I recognize the fact that the Communist Party is the vanguard party of socialism in this country but because of a changed world situation we might even allow the existence of different political parties after we achieve socialism in the United States."

He underlined that "Marxism-Leninism must remain our guiding spirit in the struggle for Socialism in America but we must apply Marxism to the American scene of today and not to apply it dogmatically to the hundred years ago when Marxism was formulated. Engels himself wrote that the Marxist theory is only a blue-print and that changes will have to be made from time to time."

He spoke of "socialist democracy in the United States which will, after achieving socialism, be in a position to extend civil rights to all the people even to those who oppose socialism. No one group or party will be in a position to hurt us because the working class will be the dominating power in the country."

NY 100-26603-C40

He stated that those in the C.P. who oppose this theory are "dogmatically following Marxism of one hundred years ago and are trying to apply it to the American scene and to a world situation in which almost half of the world is already living under socialism and the sputniks are circling the Earth. As Communists we are realists and we must see things as they are. We must recognize the changes that are taking place and apply our theory accordingly."

He said that as far as the C.P. is concerned "the party is still disoriented. We still keep on losing members" He said that socialism cannot be built here without a strong C.P. "The rebuilding of our party is our main problem today. I believe that this should be the main concern of all of us - the leadership and the membership."

He also asked everyone to participate in the building of "The Worker" and "we must do our outmost to renew the publication of the Daily Worker."

[redacted] made an appeal to start working on getting subs for The Worker. He said that the sub drive is officially starting on February 1st but he urged the members to start getting subs immediately stating that "we can not have an effective party without a press." He also called on the members to raise funds for The Worker.

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On the call of the chairman for funds for The Worker the following members gave money: [redacted] - \$1000, [redacted] - \$500, [redacted] - \$300, [redacted] - \$500, [redacted] - \$1000, Pola \$200.

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The money was turned over to [redacted] who said after the meeting that he will turn over this money to the Bronx county committee "which has to make good a loan of \$2,000 which the B.C.C. made when it gave to The Worker \$2,000."

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The [redacted] was a discussion on [redacted] talk. The majority was against the [redacted] intrepetation of the dictatorship of the proletariat. [redacted] stated that "sputnick or no sputnick the dictatorship of the proletariat will have to take,

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NY 100-26603-C40

if we like or not, the exact form of it's meaning" and [] claimed that "the American road to socialism is an illusion which can never be translated into reality. Just because we are realists we must understand that the powerfull American capitalists will never give without a struggle."

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[] said that "as a worker who is a member of the Communist Party for 30 years is interested only in the building of the party. Our leadership is no good. They (the leaders) didn't do anything to unify the party since our last convention. The only thing they do is fighting each other and for this we pay them and I don't like. I want Comrade [] to tell them what I said. Tell them to stop fighting and to start rebuilding the party or get out and give somebody else a chance to do it."

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[] said: "I will tell them. Exactly as you stated it."

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[] warned that a way most found how to dissolve the ideological differences and it got be done quickly otherwise there is a danger that the C.P. will disintegrate to such to such a stage that it will be irreparable.

[] agreed with this point of view. He said: "I believe that we must try to rebuild our party and our press while we continue hammering out our ideological differences. We can have differant theoretical opinions and we can work together. Our leadership at present is thinking in this same direction and we are doing everything to rebuild the party while we are trying to resolve our ideological differences."

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It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Kingsbridge area C.P. at [] apat, at [] Ave., Bronx, N.Y. on Feb. 4th, 1958.

J. Morris

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

DATE: 2/26/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - ORGANIZATION
IS-R

Care must be utilized in handling and reporting the following information, since the very nature of this information tends to disclose the identity of a highly placed and sensitive informant.

On 1/27/58, NY 2179-S* advised that on above date, SID STEIN had a conference in his office with [redacted] and another individual whose identity was unknown to the informant.

- 2 - Bureau (100-3-69) (RM)
- 2 - Albany (RM)
- 1 - Buffalo [redacted] (RM)
- 1 - Chicago (100-18953) (RM)
- 2 - Newark (100-4284) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
- (1-100-2974) [redacted]
- 1 - Philadelphia (100-31723) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
- 1 - Cincinnati (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
- 1 - Cleveland (100-) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (100-26044) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
- (1-100-) (DOROTHY HEALEY)
- 1 - New York (100-50090) (SID STEIN) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-19679) (ISADORE WCFY) (19-1)
- ① - New York (100-80638) (CP, USA-Membership) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-4931) (CP, USA) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-13203) (GEORGE MORRIS) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-87211) (CP, USA-Factionalism) (19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-80641)

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(21)

100-80638-1400

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[Handwritten signature]

RHP

NY 100-80641

According to the informant, the unknown individual, prior to [redacted] arrival and participation in the discussion, told STEIN the following relating to re-registration figures.

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Informant reported that he was unable to determine whether these figures are the goal to be reached in the registration drive or are the actual count of re-registration. These figures were stated as follows:

Manhattan	475
Brooklyn	545
Bronx	75
Industrial	600
Queens	Expect 75 to 100
Upstate NY	Albany -4
	Schenectady-5
	Buffalo(no report as yet, but [redacted] will make report)
Nassau	35 (possibly)

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Continuing, the informant advised that IZZY (ISADORE WOFSY) joined STEIN and the unknown individual and STEIN told IZZY that he got 3 (\$300?) of the 5(\$500?) promised and will get the other 2 (\$200?) in a few days.

Informant reported that following STEIN'S statement, the discussion again returned to re-registration as follows:

New Jersey	150
Philadelphia	150 (it was stated that Philadelphia had 500 members)
Ohio	460 and the comment was made that this figure would give Ohio about 70%..

The informant further reported that following the discussion on re-registration figures, it was stated that the Chicago (CP) asks that none of the present secretaries be secretaries any longer (informant speculated that they were referring to the 7 national secretaries that compose the NAC).

NY 100-80641

The informant also reported that it was stated that the Southern California Board endorsed the substance of the 12-Party Statement and endorsed the NEC statement on GEORGE MORRIS. They called on GENE DENNIS to withdraw his report....."told him to resign" and recommended that the National Office move to Chicago. (It is believed that what is referred to here is that the California District has accepted the STEIN report and rejected the DENNIS report, and called for the resignation of DENNIS from his position as secretary of National Affairs.)

Concerning the above, NY 2010-S* advised that on 1/27/58, [REDACTED] was in contact with SID STEIN. According to the informant, STEIN told MARTHA that he had heard from DOROTHY (HEALEY) last night and their district board (California) met with JIM JACKSON and FRED (FINE), both there at the time. STEIN stated that the district board approved the NEC statement on "the 12." He added that they also asked GENE (DENNIS) to withdraw his report; called for the National Center to move to Chicago, and for none of the present secretaries to be in the new set up.

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-18953)

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
ORGANIZATION
IS - C

DATE: 2/27/58

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[REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, on February 10, 1958, orally advised SA [REDACTED] concerning a meeting of the CP of Illinois District Committee which was held February 8, 1958, at the MAR-LU Ballroom, 4003 West Roosevelt, Chicago, Illinois.

This oral information was written up in narrative report form and subsequently returned to [REDACTED] for his approval and signature. This signed narrative report will be located in [REDACTED]

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It is to be noted that CG 5912-S made available for photostating one copy each of the majority and minority reports which were presented at this meeting. A photostatic copy of each of these reports was made on February 10, 1958, and these photostats will be located in 100-18953-1B3 (212).

- 1 - Cleveland (RM)
100- (HY LUMER)
- 3 - Indianapolis (RM)
 - 1 - 100-9316 [REDACTED]
 - 1 - 100-8745 (CP, USA, Strategy in Industry)
 - 1 - 100-4317 (Cominfil, USWA-CIO)
- ④ - New York (RM)
 - 1 - 100-27452 (ROBERT THOMPSON)
 - 1 - 100-80641 (CP, USA, Organization)
 - 1 - 100-87211 (CP, USA, Factionalism)
 - ① - 100-80638 (CP, USA, Membership)
- 42 - Chicago
(Copies continued in ii)

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REB:SAF/lma
(50)

100-80638-1401

SEARCHED INDEXED
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FEB 28 1958
FBI - NEW YORK
Waters

19-1

NY Membership
info on p18
noted REB

Waters
- i -

CG 100-18953

[REDACTED]
1 - 100-644 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-22435 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-3303 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-3301 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-21073 (LESTER DAVIS)
1 - 100-17376 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-18001 (FRED FINE)
1 - 100-4031 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-12459 (FLO HALL)
1 - 100-21526 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-2515 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-2748 (SAM KUSHNER)
1 - 100-13332 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-9948 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-22078 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-20289 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-2749 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-16711 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-19743 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-18457 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-12890 (EARL DURHAM)
1 - 61-867 (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
1 - 100-9103 [REDACTED]
1 - 100-18952 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Membership)
1 - 100-18963 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Factionalism)
1 - 100-18961 (CP,USA,Illinois District-International Relations)
1 - 100-17977 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Political Activities)
1 - 100-19491 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Domestic Administration)
1 - 100-19431 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Strategy-In-Industry)
1 - 100-18956 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Negro Question)
1 - 100-18209 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Pamphlets and Publications)
1 - 100-18338 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Education)
1 - 100-17965 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Brief)
1 - 100-33741 (CP,USA-Organization)
1 - 100-33740 (CP,USA-Membership)
1 - 100-33728 (CP,USA-Factionalism)
1 - 100-22011 (CP,USA,Illinois District-Flynn Section)
1 - 100-22007 (CP,USA,Illinois District-South Side Section)
1 - 100-25191 (ICFP)
1 - 100- (GERALDINE LIGHTFOOT)

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February 10, 1958
Chicago, Illinois

On February 8, 1958, at 10:00 a.m. there was a meeting of the Communist Party (CP) of Illinois District Committee in the MAR-LU Ballroom, 4003 West Roosevelt, Chicago, Illinois. Those in attendance at this meeting were:

[REDACTED]

LESTER DAVIS

[REDACTED]

FRED FINE

[REDACTED]

FLO HALL

[REDACTED]

SAM KUSHNER

[REDACTED]

EARL DURHAM

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

[REDACTED]

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It was noted that [redacted], mentioned above, was a guest at this meeting since it had been proposed that a discussion concerning the Flynn Section, of which she is organizer, be held at this meeting. The proposed agenda for this meeting was as follows:

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1. A subcommittee report on the internal situation in the CP, USA.
2. Discussion of "The Worker" subscription drive.
3. An announcement concerning the Congressional investigation of the CP in the Gary, Indiana, area.
4. A discussion on discontinuance of the Flynn forums.
5. Good and welfare.

[redacted] was proposed as chairman for this meeting and LESTER DAVIS was proposed as secretary by CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, and these nominations were accepted unanimously.

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It was announced that the subcommittee which had been selected at the last district committee had prepared a majority and minority report concerning the internal situation in the CP today. It was noted that although others were selected to work on this subcommittee only [redacted] SAM KUSHNER, and [redacted] had actually met to discuss it. Further, [redacted] and KUSHNER had prepared the majority report, and [redacted] had prepared the minority report. It was decided that the individuals who presented these two reports would be allowed fifteen minutes after the presentation of the report in order to discuss or clarify any points contained in them.

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It was also announced that it would not be necessary to take notes on these two reports because they were in the process of being printed up at the time of the start of this meeting and copies of them would be made available to all those present during the meeting.

[redacted] presented the majority report, which is set out as follows:

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"ILLINOIS STATE COMMITTEE DRAFT RESOLUTION
ON INTERNAL SITUATION

"In the year since the sixteenth national convention of our Party, the inner-Party situation has greatly deteriorated. The crisis has expressed itself in the leadership by the paralysis of our National Committee, and in the ranks by the fact that thousands have left the Party. Ideologically there is unclarity with little leadership to resolve it, and in the place of practical day to day involvement on the mass issues of peace, economic security and civil rights there is wide-spread passivity.

"Ironically this increasingly critical situation in our Party has developed at a time when objective conditions for advances on mass issues of the day and for our overcoming our isolation have become more favorable. Increasing opportunities are presenting themselves for our Party to integrate itself with the working class, the Negro people and all the common people of our nation in their striving for peace, for security against mounting unemployment and for the implementing and extension of the civil rights law.

"An early resolution to a number of ideological questions will give greater impetus to our participation in mass activities and, similarly, our renewed practical work will take on added meaning in the light of growing Marxist-Leninist theoretical clarity.

"There are, as an absolute minimum, three theoretical questions to which the Party leadership and membership must address itself without fail. To two of these the answers need not be long in forthcoming, while on the third only a profound and exhaustive study will provide us with sound Marxist-Leninist answers. The first two are: one, the character and role of our Party, and two, our Party's attitude toward other Communist parties, to the camp of socialism and especially to the Soviet Union. The third theoretical question should deal with the nature of state-monopoly capitalism in the USA today and how it has distorted the course of the economic cycle in the post-war period - this fundamental economic analysis as a basis for a definitive Party program.

"It is our conviction that our Party must base itself on the working class, must play a vanguard role both as a party of socialist education and as a party of action, must have firm ideological roots in the universally valid Marxist-Leninist principles as it applies and creatively develops these principles in accord with the class struggle in our country.

"Organizationally, and as a Party of action, this requires subordination of the minority to the majority after decisions are taken. While providing safeguards against bureaucracy, our Party will organize responsible channels within it for the expression and examination of dissent and it will prohibit factions and factional activities.

"This means concretely rejecting Comrade Stein's views on the role of our Party as published in the January, 1958 Party Affairs. He declares 'that the vanguard role of the Communists expresses itself in taking initiatives as the situation requires, but that our main direction is to assist the labor and people's movements to attain the goals they have and will set for themselves in the course of the present and coming struggles.' In the rest of the

paragraph he does add to our role such undertakings as expanding the leading role of the working class and promoting the understanding of the need and the road to socialism. In essence, his position is a re-birth of the old theory of spontaneity and is a rejection of the Leninist position of the role of a vanguard party.

"We believe that we must carry on an ideological battle with those who call primarily for our identity with the mass organizations of the people and their programs and neglect to discuss or work out our vanguard role except in the most nebulous terms. Simultaneously we must conduct a campaign against those who do not face the current facts of our relative isolation from the trade unions and from the trade unions and from the mass organizations and who do not start from this real premise but concern themselves primarily with our so-called independent activities.

"Our job as a vanguard has this basic two-fold character: the closest and continuous contact with the masses where they are in their organizations; with their problems, activities and programs, plus Party organization and stimulation for more advanced program and activity where and when this is required, working skilfully in the ranks and with the sections of the leadership to expose and combat class collaboration policies. Thus, on the basis of this two-fold approach, difficult and complex as it may be to follow through, we will elevate class understanding and educate for socialism.

"To avoid distortions and ambiguities in the interpretation of what the sixteenth convention of our Party said on the question of our relation to other parties and to the lands of socialism, especially the Soviet Union, our Party must take a clear stand on the autonomy of the various Communist parties in the world and on the simultaneous great need for international Communist and working class solidarity. We reaffirm our recent State Committee decision in greeting the declaration of the twelve parties, in hailing its outstanding contributions to a Marxist-Leninist understanding

of current developments and in calling upon the whole Party to study and apply its findings creatively to our country. We reiterate our rejection of the NEC statement on the twelve party declaration as carping and negative and lacking in appreciation of the spirit of international working class solidarity which permeates that document. For Marxists there can be no basic contradiction in the combination of deep devotion to our own land with the spirit of working class internationalism.

"This does not mean a repetition of past sectarian errors, in mechanically applying findings of other parties to our own situation. This does not mean the abandonment of an autonomous position regarding the American road to socialism. This does not mean the elimination of comradely criticism when necessary in our fraternal relations with other Communist parties. But this attitude has nothing in common with captious criticism, with positions bordering on hostility to other parties or to the lands of socialism or with a one-sided emphasis on our 'independence'. If we are to present a Marxist-Leninism program to the American people it must stem in large part from a profound and painstaking study of the nature of state-monopoly capitalism in the USA. The distorted form of the economic cycle in the post-war period; the role of armaments production; the conditions of relative prosperity for a majority of the American people; the conduct of trade union leaders and of the membership in the trade unions; the divisions among the giant monopolies; the question of peaceful co-existence; the growth of current unemployment, etc. can all be more clearly delineated and understood in the light of such a study guided by Marxist-Leninist principles and the Marxist method. Continued neglect of the concrete study of this question can only lead to further separation from reality, to sterile dogmatism, to the deeper isolation of our Party. This does not mean, as some would have it, that we have no guide in Marxist political economy in the theory of the inevitability of crises or in Lenin's theory of imperialism. With the aid of these, we must probe and deepen our concrete understanding of American state-monopoly capitalism today.

"It is our belief that our Party faces today a two-fold danger simultaneously - the danger of 'rightist' revisionism and the danger of 'leftist' sectarianism. We base ourselves on the Marxist-Leninism proposition that both sectarianism and right opportunism have objective roots in the system under which we live, and that the struggle must be conducted on both fronts with the main emphasis against that which threatens the Marxist line of our Party at a given moment.

"In the particular situation in our Party today, in addition to bourgeois influences and the prolonged period of relative prosperity, our sectarian and dogmatic errors of the past and present have all given birth to rightist thinking and revisionism. In turn, this revisionism has further entrenched dogmatism and sectarianism. One has fed the other. Both threaten our very existence as a Party. Both must be combatted simultaneously. An effective struggle against dogmatism and left sectarianism demands a decisive defeat of the rightist and revisionist trends in our ranks.

"The basically incorrect rightist direction and revisionist trend in our ranks has found expression on a number of questions growing in strength since our convention. In our opinion labelling every erroneous concept of a rightist direction as outright revisionism is harmful. Among these erroneous concepts can be listed a watering-down of the role of a vanguard party; an avoidance of ideological discussion in the areas of difference with a simultaneous questioning of some of the universally valid Marxist-Leninist propositions; hesitations to mount an ideological struggle against Clark and Gates before their resignations; a more or less formal approach to their resignations rather than a fundamental characterization of what they stood for; a super-critical attitude to the camp of socialism and especially the Soviet Union; the retention of a harmful National Committee position on the Hungarian events; the recent NEC resolution on the twelve party declaration; a one-sided and exaggerated approach to other socialist currents in our country.

"The leftist and dogmatic trend in our Party has deep historical roots - going back to our very beginnings as a Party and even before. In recent years it has expressed itself, among other questions in supporting the launching of the Progressive Party and fighting for its continued existence; in an inadequate study of the specific features of our nation economically and politically; in the absence of proper consideration of Comrade Foster's proposal of the possibility of peaceful transition to socialism in the USA; in mechanically applying policies of other parties to our problems; in an exaggerated estimate of the fascist danger; in almost perennial over-estimation of the radicalization of the masses. Currently it finds expression in attempts to re-write our whole Party history in terms of a struggle against revisionism; in one-sided estimates of the role of the trade unions today; in grandiose plans for our Party; in a neglect of the study of the concrete situation in the USA; in a substitution of their wishful thinking for a facing up to reality.

"Our Party's history has been a history of struggle on two fronts; against sectarianism for long periods of time and against revisionism for extended periods. The declaration of the twelve Communist parties observes: 'Disregard of national peculiarities by the proletarian party inevitably leads to its divorce from reality, from the masses and is bound to prejudice the cause of socialism and, conversely, exaggeration of the role of these peculiarities or departure, under the pretext of national peculiarities from the universal Marxist-Leninist truth on the socialist revolution and socialist construction is just as harmful to the socialist cause... The participants in the meeting consider that both these tendencies should be combatted simultaneously.' We believe that this proposition applies with equal validity to rightist and leftist directions and trends listed above and that the situation in our country calls for a simultaneous struggle against both tendencies.

"The State Committee therefore resolves that:

"1. The current internal situation in our Party can best be characterized as consisting of a two-fold danger, the danger of rightist revisionism and the danger of leftist sectarianism. We call for the organization of ideological discussion to surmount these dangers and to establish our party on a sound Marxist-Leninist basis.

"2. A critical and self-critical approach by the leadership and by individual comrades of all trends is on the order of the day. Subjective excuses that admission of errors may feed the 'right' or 'left' should be rejected. Where there is objective validity for the admission of errors such a procedure can only strengthen the Party ideologically.

"3. That we reject the resolution of the State of California and other areas that declare that the main and only danger is left sectarianism.

"4. That the Party must with its full resources enter into practical work that is already involving masses in their own organizations. The Communist Party legislative program for the 85th Congress is a good beginning in this direction. State Committees, sections and clubs might well study this legislative document, (published in the Worker, Sunday, January 26, 1958) and work out concrete proposals for activity on a local basis.

"5. Call a national consultative conference to meet with the National Committee on the present Party situation and how to remedy it. This national conference shall be empowered to review developments since our 16th Convention to clear up ambiguities in some of our resolutions, to correct unsound evaluations in others, to more adequately delineate the right and revisionist danger, while not removing emphasis from the continuing necessary struggle against sectarianism.

"6. National Committee to issue statement to membership of the Party, indicating main approach to immediate mass tasks and projecting plans for internal discussion on selective points of difference. The N.C. should make it clear that all discussion is to be carried through organized Party procedures, and that no factional approaches will be tolerated."

Following this report [] commented briefly upon it.

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[] presented the minority report, which is set out as follows:

"Draft Illinois Statement
(Minority)

"1. The main feature of the present inner-party situation is the sharply intensified conflict raging in the national leadership and rapidly extending to the entire organization. The Party is in grave danger. Since the 16th National Convention, the Party has undergone its sharpest decline in membership and now faces its most severe crisis.

"Unlike other periods, when external causes in the form of attacks and pressures against the Party and other objective conditions constituted the main cause of difficulties, at present it is the subject factor which is the determinant one. In fact, the inner crisis is developing while the conditions around the Party are becoming more favorable to our growth and activity.

"2. The unity of a Marxist-Leninist vanguard Party must be based upon its common acceptance of basic principles of Marxist-Leninist theory. The past 11 months have brought sharply into the open the long standing ideological differences in the leadership of the Party. These differences are the fundamental basis of our disunity. Subjectivity, 'bad matters', 'factionalism' etc. are secondary and result from the former.

"Unity of our Party can be achieved only by placing our work upon a firm foundation of the universally valid principles of Marxism-Leninism. Efforts to 'combat disunity' by dealing only with the symptoms, or by counterposing 'mass activity' as the substitute for simultaneous thrashing out of these basic issues of principle can only result in prolonging the inner crisis, further undermining of the Party's strength and influence, and stagnation of any real mass work. We base ourselves on the following Marxist-Leninism propositions: (a) that both left sectarianism and right-opportunism have objective roots in the system under which we live; (b) that the struggle must be conducted on both fronts, with the main emphasis against that which threatens the Marxist Line of our Party at a given moment.

"3. We have witnessed a mushrooming of right revisionism as represented by the positions of Gates and those who have supported and continue to support main elements of his line. The anti-Party, anti-Marxist-Leninism character of this trend is clearly revealed today by the resignation of Gates and some of his followers, by their public attack on the Party, and open embracing of Browderism. (In his interview with Mike Wallace, Gates declared: 'the kicking out of Earl Browder was one of the biggest mistakes' the Party ever made. 1-18-58)

"The following facts, among others, point up right revisionism as the main danger threatening the line of the Party today:

"a) The voting records of the National Committee and the published discussions show that the main right revisionism positions of Gates have been supported by a number of National Committee members, and two Party secretaries, Comrades Fine and Stein.

"b) Gates and his followers were permitted to maintain effective control of the Daily Worker and to use it for almost a year as their ideological instrument, which incidentally, was a major contributory factor to the collapse of the Daily Worker after 34 years of successful publication.

"c) The NEC statement on the 12 Party declaration, and its reversal of the position of the NAC was in essence a rejection of the line of the 12 Party Declaration and a departure from Marxist-Leninist principle, including the principle of international working class solidarity, which is a cornerstone in the struggle for peace.

"d) The Northern California District resolution is a move to force out of Party leadership those comrades who have been an obstacle, to a greater or less degree, to right revisionist policies, and to capture complete control of the National leadership for these policies.

"e) The failure to place the struggle for peace as the central, all-embracing issue, which imposes itself into every phase of the political life of our country, is perhaps the greatest proof of right revisionism in our leadership. The programs, state and national, adopted since the 16th Convention, have either totally ignored the peace question or given it lip service as a secondary sub-point.

"f) Related to the above is the common characteristic of our present line of political action, trade unionism, and Negro work which has lost or blunted a class viewpoint and tends to tail behind reformist leadership.

"4. While right revisionism has permeated and partially demoralized the Party, the formula that 'left-sectarianism is the main danger', has served as a smokescreen for the right. Every effort to come to grips with the present right danger and to objectively examine our weaknesses is blocked by the repetition of this formula.

"5. The revisionism perspectives have disarmed the Party in the face of the aggressive drive of U.S. imperialism. Our Party was not prepared for the sharpening conflicts which are now unfolding. Through the McClellan Committee, the 'right to work' law campaign, the Taft-Hartley 'conspiracy' frame-ups and other means, big business is waging a many-sided

struggle to split and destroy the effectiveness of the labor movement. The workers and farmers are called upon to 'sacrifice' their standards of living in the name of the atomic-missile drive. The Tuskegee Institute report and other studies reveal the consolidation of racist reaction in the South as well as other grave problems confronting the Negro people. Unemployment is now a stark reality for millions, while other millions of presently employed workers are on 3 and 4 day weeks.

"The world situation is characterized by the growing offensive of the peace forces against imperialism in general and in particular the exposure of Wall Street as the chief center of world reaction and the war danger. All this is but part of the domestic and world picture which bears out the conclusions of the 12-Party Declaration. This Declaration, with its statement of the basic laws of Marxism-Leninism is a great contribution to the ideological unity of the Party.

"6. Thus the objective and ideological basis exists for uniting the Party on a Marxist-Leninist foundation, for developing and applying a mass line of struggle against U.S. monopoly-imperialism, and for building the Party and extending its influence. To constructively aid this process, the Illinois State Committee resolves as follows:

"a) We reject the revisionism proposals contained in the Northern California District resolution as leading in fact to further disintegration and liquidation of the Party as a Marxist-Leninist vanguard.

"b) That right revisionism constitutes at present the main danger to the line of the Party.

"c) In preparation of a National Conference, the widest ideological discussions should be organized by the membership on the main issues posed by the inner-Party crisis; on the program of the Party in this period of post-sputnik political

crisis; on the 12 Party Declaration and the 64 Party Peace Declaration. To facilitate this discussion, the State Committee should encourage and assist the organization of forums and other organized discussions, and issue a state discussion bulletin or otherwise provide for the circulation of written discussion articles.

"d) In approaching the question of Party leadership, we recognize this question to be dependent upon the clarification of basic policies. Clarification of the latter and knowledge of the positions of leading comrades on all major political and ideological questions are prerequisite to a sound approach to any reorganization of leadership. We are categorically opposed to the reorganization of the NEC and NAC as is currently being proposed by the California resolution, by comrade Stein and others.

"e) The proposed National Conference should consider the calling of a National Convention and the steps necessary for the fullest participation of the membership in such convention."

After completing his reading of this report, explained a few points contained in it in a brief manner.

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Following the reading of these two reports a general discussion followed as to whether or not amendments could be made to either the majority or minority reports or whether one of the reports had to be rejected before amendments could be made to the remaining report. It was finally decided that one of the reports would have to be rejected, and amendments would then be allowed for the remaining report. In a vote taken, the minority report was rejected by vote of fourteen to seven. A discussion then followed concerning the amendments to these reports, and again it was announced that it would not be necessary to take notes concerning these amendments since they would be printed up immediately following this meeting so that all present would have the amendments in their entirety.

Among the amendments proposed was one by the "Left" group which called for the dropping out of the referendum to left sectarianism, which is contained in resolution Number 1 of the majority report. This proposed amendment lost by a vote of fifteen to seven.

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT requested that resolution Number 1 be changed to show that left sectarianism is the worst danger facing the party, as was indicated by the 16th National Convention (of the CP), but this proposed amendment lost by a vote of fourteen to seven, with one person abstaining. Finally a compromise amendment was approved to this resolution; however, the exact wording of which was not made available but will be published in the immediate future. Other amendments were proposed and approved, and these also will be made available in printed form.

One other proposal, which was not listed in the majority report, was approved by a vote of seventeen to one. This proposal called for the moving of the CP national headquarters to Chicago as quickly as possible.

The next item taken up was a report on the current subscription drive for "The Worker", which was presented by [] stated that the celebration which had been held January 18, 1958, which was attended by ROBERT THOMPSON, was a great success and a good deal of money had been collected. She stated that a goal of one hundred subscriptions had been set for the time of that meeting, and actually 124 subscriptions had been received, which was a good indication of the success of this subscription drive so far. [] passed out literature pertaining to this subscription drive, which was made available to all those individuals present.

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CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, in commenting upon [] report, stated that the recent Party registration drive had been a disappointment and was very unsatisfactory. He stated that in analyzing the registration records he found no indication of what action had been taken to utilize "The Worker" in Party organizational work. LIGHTFOOT stated

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he felt "The Worker" should be used as a means to interest new members in the Party and also as a means of getting members who had left the Party interested in the movement again. LIGHTFOOT further stated that the situation in this district is not as bad as New York, where the membership is probably down to about three thousand; however, if he were asked to comment upon it now from the registration records he would have to say there were less than four hundred people registered in this district. As an example LIGHTFOOT stated the South Side Section, which formerly had as many as two thousand members, had only 28 registered. LIGHTFOOT called upon all sections in this district to make it a district committee responsibility that "The Worker" be utilized in building up the Party membership. LIGHTFOOT concluded by asking all to work hard in "The Worker" subscription drive so that by March 15-16, 1958, sufficient results can be shown. Following these comments [redacted] chairman of the meeting, announced that he would challenge any trade union in a competition to obtain the most subscriptions to "The Worker" during this subscription drive. It was proposed in a friendly manner that the Steel Section accept this challenge from [redacted] since it also is in a basic industry. //

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CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT next announced that the Illinois District should do all it can to support those people who are being called to testify before the Congressional Committee which is holding hearings in Gary, Indiana, beginning February 10, 1958. LIGHTFOOT stated that this Government investigation comes as a result of the "Cleveland case" and is a part of a pattern of the Government in its "counter-attack program." LIGHTFOOT asked that the Party have its own counter-attack against this (Congressional) committee by supporting those who have been called to testify in every way possible.

It was noted that LIGHTFOOT did not concretely set out any particular way that these people could be aided.

LIGHTFOOT next announced that due to the time which had been consumed in the debate and discussion concerning the amendments to the majority report, which had been presented at this meeting, it would not be possible to take up a discussion concerning the Flynn Forums. He added that the discussion of the Flynn Forums would be taken up at the next meeting of the (CP of Illinois) State Board..

Among the individuals' comments made at this meeting the following were noted:

FRED FINE commented that he had been declared a supporter of GATES and indicated he did not like this statement. FINE also spoke about the dangers which could arise to the Party through left sectarianism.

EARL DURHAM commented that the Party has to go into action because it is only through activity that the Party would be able to bring itself out of the present situation.

[redacted] spoke about the Polish and Czech Communist Party and stated that revisionism had caused the trouble in those parties. FRED FINE interrupted [redacted] comment and started to give some remarks of his own, at which time [redacted] said "Do you want to debate this question?", and FINE answered "Yes, I'll debate"; however, they were not allowed to continue this discussion.

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[redacted] proposed that informational forums be held in the Illinois District that all party members could attend. [redacted] stated that these could serve as part of the Party's needed educational program. After a discussion on this point it was decided that three informational forums would be held during March, April, and May, 1958, at Chicago. The first of these is scheduled for March 21, 1958, and the subject will be the "Economic Situation." A speaker for this forum will be announced later. It was proposed that the April forum discuss the Twelve Party Document; however, no date was set for that meeting.

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It was also proposed that the third meeting of this forum be held May 5, 1958, and the subject will be the Welfare State with possibly FRED FINE and [redacted] as the speakers.

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Another meeting announced at this committee meeting was a public meeting to be held at 306 East 43rd Street, Chicago, Illinois, on March 15, 1958, with the speaker to be HY LUMER. The topic for LUMER's speech was not announced.

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, during this meeting, announced that the CP of Illinois conference on Negro Work will be held March 2, 1958, at Chicago, Illinois, and he requested that each club send a minimum of one representative to this conference. LIGHTFOOT stated that no site had been selected for this conference in view of that fact a large place must be obtained since it is anticipated that more than 100 people will attend.

It was also noted that [redacted] had announced that a meeting of all CP section press representatives would be held at 3848 West Van Buren on February 24, 1958.

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LIGHTFOOT also announced that the CP of Illinois had printed up 10,000 leaflets concerning the fire trap hazards on Chicago's South Side, and he directed that all section organizers or their representatives pick up copies of these leaflets at Party headquarters, 36 West Randolph Street, Room 805, during the week beginning February 10, 1958.

In announcing the description of this pamphlet, LIGHTFOOT commented that one alderman in Chicago has agreed to sponsor a bill against kitchenette apartments and other unsafe practices in breaking up large houses on the South Side into so many small apartments. This alderman stated he would not sponsor the bill unless he had the support of certain other aldermen; however, he (the alderman) indicated that he could not reveal the names of these aldermen because of pressure which would be brought against them by landlords and other big real estate owners.

The following committees were announced by CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT at this meeting and approved without debate: a committee to bring people back into Party activity, [REDACTED], EARL DURHAM, [REDACTED], GERALDYNE LIGHTFOOT; a district political action committee with [REDACTED] chairman, [REDACTED] LESTER DAVIS; a district administrative committee composed of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, SAM KUSHNER, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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This meeting concluded at approximately 6:00 p.m.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603) (19-2) DATE: 3/3/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED] (12-10)

SUBJECT: CP USA - NEW YORK DISTRICT
NEW YORK DIVISION
IS - C

ReNYlet to Bureau, 1/23/58.

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Source [REDACTED] (conceal identity)

Reliability Who has furnished reliable
information in the past.

Date of Event 1/16/58

Date Received 2/6/58

Received By

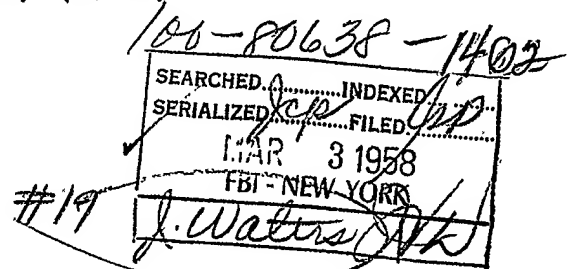
SA [REDACTED]

Location of Info [REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

1 - NY 100-54651 (CP USA - National Groups) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-128816 (CP USA - NY District - National Groups) (19-2)
1 - NY 100-95583 (CP USA - Line) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-80633 (CP USA - Education) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-128822 (CP USA - NY District - Education) (19-2)
1 - NY 105-971 (KKK)
1 - NY 100-89691 (CP USA - Domestic Admin. Issues) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-128823 (CP USA - NY District - Domestic Admin. Issues) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-26603-C 40 (CP USA - NY District - Bronx County) (12-10)
1 - NY 100-80638 (CP USA - Membership) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-128817 (CP USA - NY District - Membership) (19-2)
1 - NY 100-26603 - C 43 (CP USA - NY District - Brooklyn County) (12-10)
COPIES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
1 - NY 100-26603 (CP USA - NY District) (19-2)

MLW:mtt
(29)

NY 100-26603

Care should be used in paraphrasing the following information contained in informant's report if it is disseminated outside this Bureau.

Copies of this memo have been routed to all NYO files to which referenced letter was disseminated and to other logical files. Referenced letter contained oral information from informant concerning activities appearing in informant's written report which is attached.

COPIES CONTINUED

1 - New York 100-13447 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-73561 (ABE UNGER)
1 - NY 100-89179 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-133566 [redacted] (12-10)
[redacted]
1 - NY 105-18272 (EDNA NESIN)
1 - NY 100-0-98055 [redacted] E., Bx.) (12-10)
1 - NY 100-78424 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-99195 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-71043 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-85233 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100- (GOLDIE (LNU), W, F, attended 1st class taught by ABE UNGER, in Bronx, on 1/16/58) (12-10)
1 - NY 100- [redacted] Bx.) (12-10)
1 - NY 100- [redacted] Ave., Bx.) (12-10)
1 - NY 100-122446 [redacted] (12-10)

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COPY

11 P.M.

1/17/58

On 1/16/58 at 8³⁰ P.M. in the apartment of [redacted] East Apt [redacted] the first class on Marxism and Civil Rights was given by Mr Abe Unger. Profession - is an attorney. Resides in Brooklyn address unknown.

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Attending this class were the following persons

[redacted]

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Mr Abe Unger - instructor.

Mr Unger asked what topic should he give his classes on. For each of these topics he will talk on will take four (4) or six (6) weeks.

The first was current events - concerning the American Indians on Reservations in North Carolina and the Klu Klux Klan (KKK). [redacted] LNU stated that the Indians are armed and would use these arms the next time the KKK would try to hold a demonstration on the reservation grounds. Also that in Brooklyn N.Y. is the largest Indian population outside of these Reservations. These Indians who have left the reservations will if can be persuaded by the Communist Party or organizations be educated and be sent back on the reservations to instigate and stir up the rights of Indians as many Indians on these reservations do not have any education. Therefore those who will be educated and sent back will try to seek some form of leadership on the reservation to fight discrimination down South or out West.

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As to what steps any organization can do to help the Indians will be taken up at a later date.

ELM

P.S. This class is newly organized as a re-educational class designed to train prospective CP members and to bring old members back into the CP.

SAC, PORTLAND

3/5/58

[Handwritten signature]
SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

On 2/11/58, NY 2002-S, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, furnished photographs of documents then in possession of CP functionaries at CP Headquarters, 23 W. 26th St., NYC. Negatives of these photographs are being maintained in NY file 100-80641-1B426. Should any of this information be disseminated outside the Bureau, care should be exercised to paraphrase the information so as not to compromise NY 2002-S*.

Included in photographs furnished by informant were four pages of CP registration statistics, apparently covering CP, USA District 11. Copies of the photographs are enclosed herewith for the information of the Portland Office.

1-Portland (Enc. 1)(RM)
①-New York (100-80638)

RJL:mam
(2) *[Handwritten signature]*

[Handwritten signature]
100-80638-1403

SAC, SALT LAKE CITY

3/5/58

[Handwritten mark] SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

[Handwritten mark] CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

On 2/11/58, NY 2002-S, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, furnished photographs of documents then in possession of CP functionaries at CP Headquarters, 23 W. 26th St., NYC. Negatives of these photographs are being maintained in NY file 100-80641-1B426. Should any of this information be disseminated outside the Bureau, care should be exercised to paraphrase the information so as not to compromise NY 2002-S*.

Included in the photographs furnished by informant was two pages of registration statistics believed to represent CP, USA District 35. The photographs are enclosed herewith for the information of the Salt Lake City Office.

1-Salt Lake City (Enc. 1) (RM)
④-New York (100-80638)

RJL:mam *mam*
(2)

[Handwritten] 100-80638-1404

SAC, OKLAHOMA CITY

3/5/58

75
SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

On 2/11/58, NY 2002-S, who is in a position to furnish reliable information, furnished photographs of documents then in possession of CP functionaries at CP Headquarters, 23 W. 26th St., NYC. Negatives of these photographs are being maintained in NY file 100-80641-1B426. Should any of this information be disseminated outside the Bureau, care should be exercised to paraphrase the information so as not to compromise NY 2002-S*.

Included in photographs furnished by informant was one page of CP registration statistics covering CP, USA District 28. A copy of the photographs is enclosed herewith for the information of the Oklahoma City Office.

1-Oklahoma City (Enc. 1) (RM)
①-New York (100-80638)

RJL:mam
(2) *mam*

100-80638-1405

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-58)

MAR 5 1958

SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS-C

On 2/21/58, NY 2602-90, who is in a position to furnish reliable information regarding activities of CP Headquarters, 23 W. 26th St., NYC, furnished photographs of documents then in possession of [redacted] Administrative Secretary-Treasurer, CP, USA.

Included in the photographs furnished by informant was the enclosed list of what is believed to be CP membership figures by district, for the years 1956 and 1957. The significance of the pencilled numbers in the last two columns has not been definitely established. It is noted that by multiplying the figures in the 1957 column by two and eleven respectively, the resulting figures in column four and five are obtained. It is believed that the figures in column four and five thus represent projected "dren units" based on the 1957 membership figures. These figures are not being disseminated to interested offices inasmuch as the document is undated and incomplete. The photographs are submitted for the Bureau's information and analysis.

- 2 - Bureau (100-3-58) (Encl. 2) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-80638)

RL: jmd
(3)

100-80638-1406

New York 222

New England 357

E. Pennsylvania 300

W. Pennsylvania 120

Ohio 300

Michigan 411

Illinois 2000

Minnesota 272

Oregon 110

Washington 320

New Jersey 730

Connecticut 200

Wisconsin 164

Rocky Mt. 120

Missouri 49

Indiana 74

Maryland 200

Virginia 25

Florida 30

Georgia 30

Alabama 25

(Missouri-Iowa)

222

357

300

120

300

370

200

272

60

300

600

100

125

100

75

75

100

19100

16500

44500

55000

55000

38500

66000

22000

66000

33000

66000

11000

13700

11000

82500

82500

best available image

440-3176-100-73038-1436

Tennessee (no accurate figure)

California 2300

Louisiana (no accurate figure)

Texas 35

Mississippi -
Gulf - 100 18

227

2200

N.L. - 700

S.C. 1500

1400

3000

15,000

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-20779) DATE: March 3, 1958

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CP - ORGANIZATION
IS - C

From : [REDACTED]

Concealment and Reliability : T- , who has furnished reliable information in the past

Date and Description : Trade Union Committing meeting; February 1, 1958, Brookline, Mass.

Date Received : February 6, 1958

Received by : SA [REDACTED]

Location [REDACTED]

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b7D

In view of the sensitivity of this informant, the utmost care must be utilized to carefully paraphrase this information prior to dissemination in order to protect the identity of this informant.

CC:

11 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)

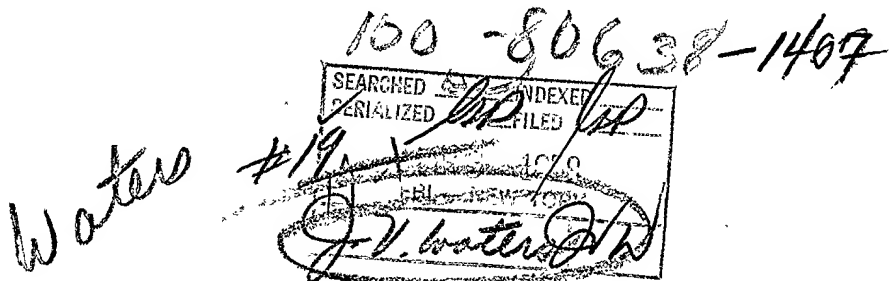
NY 100- (John Gates)
NY 100- (CP - Factionalism)
NY 100- (CP - Organization)
NY 100- (CP - Membership)
NY 100-1696 (Elizabeth Gurley Flynn)
NY 100- (Si Gerson)
NY 100- (CP - Strategy in Industry)
NY 100-80532 (Herbert Aptheker)
NY 100- [REDACTED]
NY 100- (George Morris)
NY 100- (Publishers New Press, Inc.)

b6
b7C

1 - Pittsburgh (REGISTERED MAIL)

PG 100-6459 (Elizabeth Gurley Flynn)

30 - Boston

LMM/cak
(43)

BS 100-20779

CC:



BS 100-19292 (Herbert Aptheker)
BS 100-2453
BS 100-16028
BS 100-18589
BS 100-10230
2 - BS 100-16135
BS 100-22939
BS 100-3002
BS 100-16208
BS 100-875
BS 100-870
BS 100-15971
BS 100-13150
BS 100-547
BS 100-31733 (Attempts by CP to Establish Broad
Socialist Organization)
BS 100-26827 (Publishers, New Press, Inc.)
BS 100-28313 (North Shore Forum)
BS 100-20778 (CP - Membership)
BS 100-16191 (CP - Funds)
BS 100-20787 (CP - Factionalism)
BS 100-20785 (CP - International Relations)
BS 100-16410 (CP - Political Activities)
BS 100-23165 (CP - Domestic Administrative Issues)
BS 100-26893 (CP - Strategy in Industry)
BS 100-31936 (CP - Chelsea-Revere-Winthrop)
BS 100-18969 (CP - North Shore)
BS 100-442 (SWP)

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Indexed to BS 100-20779 - GEORGE MORRIS, Labor Editor, "The Worker"

BS 100-20779

Informant's written report, dated February 2, 1958, follows:

"Saturday, Feb. 1 - I attended a meeting of the Trade Union Committee of the Communist Party of New England which also included other Party members.

"The speaker was GEORGE MORRIS, labor editor of the 'Worker' and who has been labor editor of the now defunct 'Daily Worker.'

"Those attending were: GEORGE MORRIS [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] a man called JAKE who I have named in a previous report as coming from Whitman whose name is JEAN (?), also a colored man named in a previous report as living in Roxbury who I learned at this meeting works in the yard for the Railroad; also a young man who appeared to be related to [redacted] who looks very much as if he could be a son or young brother to [redacted]. This young man also seemed to be one of the family as he seemed at home in walking to other parts of the house after the meeting.

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"I also forgot to mention the name of [redacted] as being present.

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"I arrived about 8 p.m. and found out later that GEORGE MORRIS had started to speak at 7:20 p.m.

"GEORGE MORRIS spent much time in telling of the past AFL-CIO convention and he explained that nothing of a constructive nature came out of this convention.

"MORRIS said that the International Committee of the AFL-CIO has been run by a member of the old AFL and at the convention the C.I.O. faction took this leadership away from him and the International Committee in the future will be run by C.I.O. members.

"He told of the expelling of the Teamsters Union from the AFL-CIO and said that this was a necessary thing due to corruption in the Teamsters Union.

"MORRIS said that he has seen the enormous amount of data received by the McClellan Committee in investigating corruption in labor unions and he said we cannot deny that there is corruption in some unions.

BS 100-20779

"MORRIS said that the end result of these investigations of labor unions will be a closer scrutiny of labor unions by the government and the enforcement of parts of the Taft-Hartley Law. He said that union leaders will be subject to prosecution in cases of government enforcement of labor laws.

"MORRIS said that the McClellan Committee has brought about a feeling of the workers that many labor leaders are corrupt and necessary steps are needed to correct the situation.

"He said that he has written in the columns of the 'Daily Worker' and 'Worker' many stories in which he criticized the actions of DAVE BECK and others who had proven themselves to be corrupt labor leaders.

"MORRIS said that when the A.F.L. and C.I.O. merged there was a feeling among labor leaders and workers that much would be gained in the organizing of more workers into unions. MORRIS said that this has not happened and today labor unions are in a stagnant condition. He said that the number of members did increase some due to plant expansion by some industries which brought about increased employment but he said this AFL-CIO merger did not bring about the organization of new plant workers into unions.

"MORRIS said that he has talked recently with labor leaders in some areas who are known as being reactionary and these labor leaders have said that they miss the Communists and other left forces in their unions. According to MORRIS, they told him that these left forces gave a spirit to the workers which was a help in gaining better conditions for the workers. MORRIS said that the reason for this is because a Communist has set a goal that is far ahead of the ordinary worker.

"MORRIS also said that he was opposed to the Communist Party working with the other Socialist parties on issues because this only gives a feeling to the people of a greater number of factionalists and leads to further isolation of the Communist Party.

"MORRIS said that for the last year and a half the Party has had no control on the policy of the 'Daily Worker.' He said that now JOHN GATES has left the party most of the other writers for the paper are leaving although he does not know whether they will leave the party or not.

BS 100-20779

"He said that a special committee has been set up to run the 'Worker' until the Executive Board of the Party can overcome their difficulties and problems. He said he is on this committee along with four other people, one of whom I remember as being SI GERSON and another ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN.

"MORRIS said that the members of this committee have plans for a better 'Worker' in the future which will include more stories and also stories of an international nature which he said will come from some of our people who have been deported to their native lands.

"MORRIS asked that two things be accomplished. One was a concerted drive for subscriptions to the 'Worker' and another a drive on registrations for Party membership.

[] said that the date of the Eastern Seaboard Labor Conference has been set for Feb. 15-16 in New York.

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[] told GEORGE MORRIS that he has enjoyed reading his articles in the 'Daily Worker' on labor. [] also thought that we should try our utmost to find issues on which we can do some work and said that most Party members are tired of just being a discussion group. [] also said that although we may not agree with many labor leaders on many things he felt we should back these labor leaders in issues in which we agree on.

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"GEORGE MORRIS replied on this by saying that in this group there are just as smart people as can be found in New York and there would be no point in someone from New York coming to tell the people in the New England area or Boston area how to work on issues. He said we should find our own issues to work on and then go to work on them.

"MORRIS also said that in years past labor unions did not indulge in political discussion or activity but today the right to work on political lines is accepted by the rank and file union member. He did say that he felt labor unions could enlarge on this work.

[] had told me that he had written HERBERT APTHEKER in regard to APTHEKER's speaking at our Socialist Forum in the future and wished that I would speak to GEORGE MORRIS about the Forum explaining that we have been able in the past to bring out former Party members and liberal thinking people along with members of the sponsoring parties to these Forums.

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BS 100-20779

"I conveyed this message to GEORGE MORRIS so that he could give HERBERT APTHEKER an idea of ~~which~~ the Forum would be like.

"I gave [redacted] a ride home on the way; [redacted] living in [redacted] and [redacted] in [redacted]

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"On the way home [redacted] said that in getting across programs in labor movements and other organizations he would seek out one or two people who he found to be receptive to his programs and then spend much time with these people in order to get these programs across. He said that it is impossible to put across any program alone.

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"P.S. - The above meeting was held at the home of [redacted] at [redacted] Newton.

"P.S. - GEORGE MORRIS said that Government experts are stymied as to how to cope with the increasing unemployment condition and slowing down of business and see a depression like the depression of the thirties. He said that this time people will not sit back and just starve and also said that there is a golden opportunity ahead for Communists to progress.

"MORRIS said that we must work for a moratorium on property payments and taxes and also automobiles and household goods. He pointed out that most people today are living on credit, and loss of work or cut in salary put them in serious financial difficulty.

"[redacted] gave me a note to deliver to [redacted] The note said, 'Dear [redacted] - Come to [redacted] St. next Sunday?'"

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BS 100-20779

Concerning informant's mention of the place this meeting was held, the home of [REDACTED] Newton, it is noted that the residence of [REDACTED] is actually [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Massachusetts.

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LEAD

In view of the identified attendance of [REDACTED] at the above meeting, it is requested that the case on [REDACTED] be re-opened for the purpose of recommending his inclusion on the Security Index of the Boston Office.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM *** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-63)
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33742)
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
FUNDS
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: 3/5/58

CARE SHOULD BE USED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT.

CG 5824-S*, on February 14, 1958, orally furnished to SA JOHN E. KEATING the information contained on the following page. This information was reduced to writing on February 27, 1958.

2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)

⑦ - New York (REGISTERED)

(1 - 100-74560) (CP-USA, Funds) (#19-1)
✓ (1 - 100-80638) (CP-USA, Membership) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-128817) (CP-USA, New York District, Membership) (#19-2)
(1 - 97-169) (Publishers New Press) (#7-2)
(1 - 100-) ("Morning Freiheit") (#7-2)
(1 - 100-13923) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-19679) (ISADORE WOFSEY)

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2 - Chicago
(1 - A/134-46)

JEK:kw
(11)

100-80638-1408

Waters #19

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 1 1958	
FBI - CHICAGO	

J. V. Waters

February 14, 1958

ISADORE WOFSY stated on February 14, 1958, that if the headquarters of the Communist Party was moved to Chicago from New York City, "The Worker" would be destroyed. He stated that \$40,000 was still needed to settle obligations of the "Daily Worker". WOFSY expressed fear that some of the creditors would file bankruptcy. He said that if this happened, the "Morning Freiheit" would also fold. WOFSY also stated that some former members of the "Daily Worker" staff have not been paid severance pay and they are threatening to bring suit.

WOFSY said that as of February 14, 1958, everyone on the payroll of the National Office was three and one-half weeks behind in salary. He stated that the one-half week was due to the fact that handouts of \$5.00 were given from time to time to those on the payroll. WOFSY said that [] was insisting that WOFSY should turn over money for the reserve fund to him, but WOFSY refused to do it.

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Then WOFSY said that for the past year the average dues payments per month in the New York Communist Party District were one thousand. WOFSY said that the National Office always depended upon a steady income from dues. This income is not forthcoming at this time. He also stated that he thinks that the Communist Party will not register five thousand members on a national basis.

WOFSY also said that he had met with SID STEIN and EUGENE DENNIS, and had offered to resign his post. They persuaded him to remain until after the National Committee meeting on February 15 and 16, 1958. WOFSY said that he still wants to give up his duties in regard to the reserve fund.

SAC, NEW YORK (100-118525) (7-2)

3/6/53

[REDACTED] SA (7)

BRONX CIVIL
LIBERTIES COMMITTEE
IS - C

IDENTITY OF SOURCE: [REDACTED] who has
furnished reliable in-
formation in the past
(conceal)

DESCRIPTION OF INFO.: 2/13/53

DATE RECEIVED: 2/24/53

RECEIVED BY: SA [REDACTED]

ORIGINAL LOCATED: [REDACTED]

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting
the following information in order to protect the identity
of the informant.

By report dated 2/13/53, [REDACTED] furnished
information concerning subject committee.

A copy of informant's report is attached.

[REDACTED]
1 - NY 100-89179 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-1696 (E. G. ELYN) (#10-1)
1 - NY 100-80638 (CP, USA MEMBERSHIP) (#19-1)
1 - NY 100-128817 (CP, USA NY DIV., MEMBERSHIP) (#19-2)
1 - NY 100-10744 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-26603-240 (CP BRONX) (#12-10)
1 - NY 97-169 (WORKER) (7-2)
1 - NY 100-118525 (7-2)

JFH:ELG
(2)

100-80638-1409
[Handwritten signature and initials]

COPY

Report

Bronx Committee for

Feb. 13, 1958

Civil Liberties Activities.

[redacted] of the Bronx Committee for Civil Liberties, told [redacted] that the Bronx Committee for Civil Liberties had a meeting at her apartment at 2721 Barker Ave., Bronx, N.Y., at which it was decided that every member of the Committee will from now on concentrate on selling tickets for the Elizabeth Flynn reception which will be held on Feb. 22nd at the Allerton Community Center.

[redacted] said that she talked with Elizabeth Flynn and that Flynn proposed that all the profits which will be realized from this reception "should go to the party's fund for paying the expenses of the fight against the attempts to make the party (C.P.) register as a foreign agent."

[redacted] proposed this suggestion, in her own name, at the meeting of Feb. 10th, 1958 and it was approved "without discussions".

She also said that Bill Kramer, Bronx County Press director, told her that the Bronx County Committee C.P. will try to have 100 subs for the Worker which will be given to Flynn at the reception as "a present from the Bronx in her honor".

J. Morris

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE [REDACTED]

DATE: 2/26/58

FROM : SA ROBERT C. NORTON

SUBJECT: INFORMATION FURNISHED
BY SECURITY INFORMANT

b7D

The documentation for this information is as follows:

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Furn.	Agent	Location
[REDACTED] (who has furnished reliable information in the past)	District Board meeting, 1/28/58	1/29/58	ROBERT C. NORTON (Written)	[REDACTED]

CARE SHOULD BE USED IN REPORTING THIS INFORMATION IN ORDER THAT THE IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT MAY BE FULLY PROTECTED

The text of the informant's statement is as follows:

* For assistance in reviewing report, a number in parentheses () following a name or title set forth below will indicate that there is a reference to that name or title on the page or pages whose number will be enclosed in the parentheses. Where no number is set out, it is suggested that the entire report be reviewed for information on the subject matter.

cc's:

1 - San Francisco (REGISTERED MAIL)
100- AL LANNON (9)

3 - Cleveland (REGISTERED MAIL)
ORGANIZATION (5,6)
MEMBERSHIP (5,6)
DEFECTED CP MEMBERS (5,6)

3 - Washington Field (REGISTERED MAIL)
ORGANIZATION, MD. - D.C.
[REDACTED] (2,8)
STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY (11)

100-80638-1410

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 5 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

BALTIMORE, MD.
FEB. 26, 1958
[REDACTED]

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SEE PAGE 1-A FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

RCN:sm
(55)

cc's:

15- New York (REGISTERED MAIL)
100-

ARNOLD JOHNSON
JOHN GATES (3,8,10,11)
MEMBERSHIP (4,7,10)
DEFECTED CP MEMBERS (4-6)
ORGANIZATION, CP, USA (5,13)
FACTIONALISM (5,7,10,11)
EUGENE DENNIS (5,6,11)
SECURITY MEASURES (6,7)
[REDACTED] (9)
COMINFIL MASS GROUPS (9)
STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY (9,10)
JAMES JACKSON (10)
BRIEF FILE (10)
WORKER (11)
FUNDS (12,13)

b6
b7C
b7D

33- Baltimore

100-10975	THELMA GERENDE	100-12948	WORKER (11)
100-13347	ARNOLD JOHNSON	100-12125	PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS (3,11,12)
100-12412	BOB LEE	100-11640	FUNDS (12,13)
100-10584	JACOB GREEN		
100-12076	GEORGE MEYERS		
100-20176	[REDACTED]		
100-10995	[REDACTED]		
100-13300	[REDACTED]		
100-764	[REDACTED]		
100-9665	[REDACTED]		
100-11983	[REDACTED]		
100-12117	JOHN GATES (3,8,10,11)		
100-12425	[REDACTED] (3)		
100-12471	[REDACTED]		
100-8488	AL LANNON (9)		
100-2429	[REDACTED] (9)		
100-3021	EUGENE DENNIS (5,6,11)		
100-12464	ORGANIZATION, MARYLAND - D. C.		
100-4090	BALTIMORE DIVISION, MARYLAND - D. C.		
100-12170	MEMBERSHIP (2,4-11)		
100-12458	FACTIONALISM (3,4,7-9,11)		
100-12070	SECURITY MEASURES (4-9)		
100-14569	DEFECTED CP MEMBERS (4-6,8,9)		
100-12485	NEGRO QUESTION (4,8-10)		
100-17819	NORTHWEST BALTIMORE, MD.-D.C. (8,9)		
100-20694	COMINFIL MASS GROUPS (9)		
100-12510	STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY (9-11)		
100-13964	DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION MATTERS (10)		
100-11800	BRIEF FILE (10)		

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[REDACTED]

"Baltimore, Maryland
January 29, 1958

b7D

The following report concerns a meeting of the District Board for the CP District which includes Maryland and Washington, D. C. The meeting took place January 28, 1958, at the home of THELMA GERENDE, District Board member. Present at the meeting were ARNOLD JOHNSON, national CP representative from New York; BOB LEE; JACOB GREEN; GERENDE; and GEORGE MEYERS, all District Board members. MEYERS in addition is the Acting Chairman for the District.

GREEN arrived at MEYERS' home at about 8:10 PM. MEYERS answered the door. ARNOLD JOHNSON was in the living room and MEYERS' father-in-law was in the dining room.

MEYERS told GREEN and JOHNSON that they would leave at about 8:50 PM in order to arrive at GERENDE's about 9:00 PM, and that LEE would be outside GERENDE's home sitting in an automobile.

MEYERS said it would not be a long meeting since JOHNSON would only attempt to give the District Board a clear picture on how to go about registration and would also speak briefly on the type of program to be used to get the Party under way in the area. MEYERS commented that JOHNSON's ideas might be better than the District Board's ideas or could be tied in with the plans of the District Board.

JOHNSON asked as to the size of the District Board and the District Committee.

MEYERS replied that the District Board and District Committee consisted of 8 people. He named the District Board members as himself, LEE, GERENDE and GREEN, and said that the District Committee consisted of [REDACTED]

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JOHNSON asked where [REDACTED] came into the picture.

MEYERS replied that [REDACTED] had been a District Board member at one time and although not a member of the present

[redacted]
District Committee, had substituted for [redacted] at the January 15, 1958, District Board - District Committee meeting.

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JOHNSON asked why [redacted] had not shown up at the January 15, 1958, meeting.

MEYERS replied that he didn't know, and that it was mostly a question of disagreements between himself and [redacted]. MEYERS said that [redacted] and [redacted] were part of the JOHN GATES group and did not care to participate anywhere they were not in control.

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GEORGE MEYERS' daughter and wife came into the room briefly and MEYERS left with them and went to the rear of the apartment for a short period. While MEYERS was gone, JOHNSON asked GREEN where he was working, and GREEN told JOHNSON about his job.

MEYERS returned about 8:45 PM and suggested they get ready to go. JOHNSON then put on his coat and got a small valise and bid goodbye to ALICE MEYERS and the children. MEYERS went into one of the back rooms and obtained a package of CP literature.

On the way over to GERENDE's, driving in MEYERS' car, JOHNSON noted that MEYERS had a Dodge and recalled that after graduating from college on the West Coast in the 1920's he had bought a 1924 Dodge which he eventually gave to his father. JOHNSON said when he visited the West Coast in 1931 and again in 1948, the latter time on Progressive Party business, he noted that his father still had the 1924 Dodge.

On arrival at GERENDE's house about 9:05 PM, BOB LEE was observed across the street from the home sitting in his car. JOHNSON, MEYERS, GREEN and LEE went to GERENDE's house. LEE was carrying a small brown package which he brought from the car.

Upon arrival at the home, GERENDE introduced JOHNSON to her mother and the group, with the exception of GERENDE's mother, went to a small room to the right

[REDACTED]

of the head of the stairs.

GERENDE made coffee and then the meeting got under way about 9:35 PM, MEYERS pointing out that JOHNSON had to leave Baltimore at Midnight since he had to be in New York the following day.

MEYERS started the meeting by saying that the main purpose of JOHNSON's visit was to help the District with regard to membership registration and to get some of JOHNSON's ideas on how to establish a program to get things moving.

MEYERS then explained to JOHNSON that they had not started registration in the area as requested by the national group because of the factional situation. He then explained the situation to JOHNSON.

MEYERS then went on to say that due to the former District leaders, membership had declined, many people being lost because they were accused of being Government informants. Others, MEYERS pointed out, had been dropped without explanation from the Party and there had been a particularly severe loss in Negro membership.

MEYERS then explained to the Board that he had particularly wanted JOHNSON to come to Baltimore to give the thinking of the national CP leadership on how to go about registration, that is how far back they should go to seek lost members and the best approach to those who had left the Party or had been dropped from the Party.

MEYERS then asked JOHNSON for his thoughts on the registration situation in general.

Before JOHNSON could get under way, GREEN asked MEYERS whether when talking of registration did that mean everybody who had been in the Party in the past should be recontacted. MEYERS told GREEN not to agitate. GREEN, who became angry, stated that he wanted to be clear on the situation as to whether they would contact persons who had been suspected of being informants and reminded GEORGE MEYERS that because he, JACOB GREEN, had once met

[redacted]
with [redacted] it had caused him, JACOB GREEN, to be suspected of being an informant.

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b7C
b7D

JOHNSON then said that the national leadership had sent out a call to all CP Districts requesting them to push membership registration so that the CP could determine the size of the organization by the end of 1957, but so far as he knew no District had succeeded in fulfilling the request. JOHNSON said the reason for that was that the situation which existed in Maryland-D. C. existed all over the country. JOHNSON then pointed out it was almost a month after the time the national leadership should have known of the strength of the Party and that it was time to get moving.

JOHNSON then said that although the Districts had taken no action on registration, they had sent in a number of suggestions on how to go about handling registration. JOHNSON said some Districts suggested registration should go back to 1956, others wanted to go back to 1955, others wanted to go back to 1950, and some wanted to go back as far as possible.

JOHNSON said he and the majority of the national leaders who were followers of EUGENE DENNIS felt that each District should use its own opinion as to how far back to go since they were more familiar with the local situation. JOHNSON then emphasized that the District should take registration seriously since through factionalism the Party is continuing to lose members more and more.

JOHNSON then said that he had made a visit to Youngstown (the opinion of the writer is that he meant Youngstown, Ohio, since during the conversation he spoke of heavy industry), and upon arrival there found the active CP membership to consist of three Italians who had been in the Party for a number of years. JOHNSON said he met with them to discuss how they should go about building the Party and registering members in the CP, and after discussion he found out there were many other people in the Italian community who had been members of the CP in the past and as the discussion went on the three local CP members began to recall the names of their former associates and through this discussion it was

[REDACTED]

felt that many persons suitable for registration might be contacted and brought back into the Party. JOHNSON said he couldn't say how large the Party membership at present might be in Youngstown since he had no report from them as yet, but he knew that there was some type of activity taking place in the Italian community.

JOHNSON said he was pointing this out because he felt that the type of discussion which had taken place in Youngstown should take place in all Districts. He said he was sure that no one present could remember all the persons who had been dropped from or who had left the Party, but many of these names could be recalled through discussions among CP members still active. JOHNSON said a list could be prepared after discussion and all of the present membership could contact these former CP members and try to bring them back.

JOHNSON said the main thing at the present time was for all CP Districts to make registration lists as large as possible.

JOHNSON then stated that the question of the "stool pigeon" was a serious matter, but as against the total membership of the Party from the 1920's to date, he noted that there was only a small number of CP members who had cooperated with the Government against the Party.

JOHNSON said because people dropped out of the CP or the Party dropped people from their rolls did not mean that these people were enemies of the CP. JOHNSON pointed out that some of the people who left the Party or had been dropped when recontacted said they felt themselves to be a part of the organization even during the period they were not paying dues or undertaking any activity even though that period might have lasted many years.

JOHNSON said the EUGENE DENNIS forces have discussed the caliber of the people who had left the Party or had been dropped during the 1950-1957 period and also held discussions on people accused of being informants where the accuser had not presented anything concrete which might give the organization a definite reason for depriving the accused of membership. JOHNSON said

[REDACTED]

the outcome of the discussion was:

- (1) All members who had left the Party for one reason or another, if their present addresses were known or could possibly be obtained, must be contacted and asked to re-register.
- (2) All persons labeled enemies of the Party, unless enough evidence had been brought against them, should be asked to re-register.

JOHNSON said further that in discussions at national headquarters of the CP it had been agreed that people who had left the Party or had been accused of being enemies of the Party who had not appeared before any committee and given information against the Party or had not participated in any activity which would indicate they were an enemy of the Party should be asked to register.

JOHNSON then commented that the CP leaders in various areas had been narrow minded and this had almost caused the liquidation of the Party. JOHNSON said that "we" could not go on that way if the intent was to have a large working class organization.

JOHNSON said that when MEYERS arrives at the next National Committee meeting to be held in February, the picture would be much clearer on the registration situation. JOHNSON said he felt MEYERS should bring in at least a report to the effect that all members who had been registered as of January 1, 1956, had been reached and re-registered. He said he felt that MEYERS should also bring full reports on discussions held in clubs and sections in the area as to their intentions in the future as to registration.

JOHNSON then commented that "we" who want the CP to continue have to take the position that the rank and file have a right to dissent, have a right to participate, a right to have a fair trial and the right to have a clear picture of the activity of the organization in progress so that they may know what the future would bring forth. JOHNSON said he felt with this type of approach the CP

[redacted]

could be rebuilt.

LEE said that he fully agreed with JOHNSON's views, but that he was concerned about the fact that he knew there would be objections to that approach from persons like [redacted] who would feel that discussions on screening should take place before registration. LEE said, however, he felt they might be able to convince a number of people, despite the [redacted] group, to register and also might convince the majority of CP members that there was no objection to registering people who had once been accused of being informants. LEE said he would do everything in his power in his area to register everybody and contact people who had formerly been in the organization.

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LEE suggested that the District Board should meet as soon as possible to clear up issues that might arise and felt that all the District Board members should abide by the District Board's decisions on what to do if attacked by the JOHN GATES forces in the area.

GREEN said he was pleased with the way JOHNSON had outlined the registration situation and felt that the suggested approach would help to build the organization. GREEN pointed out that no comment had been made on the Negro and white unity issue, and suggested that white comrades who had known Negroes who had been CP members in the past should recontact these Negroes instead of leaving the recontact to GREEN.

GERENDE said that she didn't agree with LEE with regard to his raising the question of Government informants since this would cause arguments and would be an attempt to clear up a situation which had been in existence for years. GERENDE said such arguments would prevent them from achieving their goal. She thought that the Board should only try to get members of the clubs and sections actively engaged in registration and not just leave registration up to the District Board and the District Committee.

GERENDE then commented that two people who had dropped out of a club in the Northwest because their mother had

[REDACTED]

been having trouble with the Immigration Service could probably be brought back into the CP because charges against the mother had been dropped.

She also suggested that some people might be brought back since she knew they had dropped out because of Smith Act prosecutions and she thought the recent Supreme Court decisions might make them change their minds on that issue.

MEYERS then stated that since JOHNSON had given his talk on registration, he was more convinced than ever they should start the registration drive immediately. He then proposed that the District go back to 1950 or a little earlier because after AL LANNON had left the District and [REDACTED] had taken over, the Party had started to decline, mostly due to [REDACTED] attitude.

b6
b7C

MEYERS said with regard to the question of suspected informants, it had to be dealt with before registration commenced or the registration would be hampered by [REDACTED] and his group.

b6
b7C

MEYERS said with regard to the Negro situation where membership had been lost due to the arrogant attitude of past leaders, they were up against a difficult situation since Negro organizations such as the NAACP and the Urban League and Negro leaders such as Reverend KING, had brought many advances to the Negroes in recent years. MEYERS said, however, that it must not be forgotten that the advances were made due to middle class leaders who did not engage in any struggle other than in a legal way. MEYERS said he felt that the Party should attempt to penetrate the NAACP, the Urban League and any other mass organization where there was a need for activity on a working class basis.

MEYERS then proposed that GERENDE and LEE be responsible for keeping an up-to-date record on registration, and that MEYERS and GREEN be responsible for broad contacts with all of the persons known in regard to registration.

JOHNSON then stressed to the group that it was most important to register working class people such as those

[REDACTED]

in a trade union movement, in particular auto, ship or steel. JOHNSON said following registration of these people there could be a broader concentration on registration.

JOHNSON then said that he thought the registration of Negro members should be the responsibility of GREEN since he had learned from JAMES JACKSON that the Negro people in the Maryland-D. C. area who had been in a leadership position among the Negro masses knew and respected GREEN.

JOHNSON then cautioned the District Board to go along slowly and do whatever they had to do thoroughly so that anything accomplished would be permanent. He warned against trying to do things on a large scale since he felt they did not have the time to do anything of that sort properly.

MEYERS then asked JOHNSON to speak on a program approach for the local Party. MEYERS then mentioned that they had already thought of ideas such as raising discussions around the Baltimore Transit situation and the attempt to secure passage of the WALTER T. DIXON Baltimore Civil Rights Bill.

JOHNSON replied that a discussion centering around a local situation like the DIXON Bill was all right and that and similar activities which pointed up immediate needs in the community would serve to generate activity and get people moving. JOHNSON said once a few people started moving, they in turn could start others becoming active.

JOHNSON then commented that as the unemployment situation continues to grow worse, the Party could play a greater and greater role in exposing the capitalist system.

JOHNSON said as time went on the 16th National CP Convention Proceedings and the "12 Party Statement" could be explained fully to the rank and file members.

JOHNSON then said that some comrades in New York did not want a personal fight around the JOHN GATES issue

[REDACTED]

and from what he had learned from GEORGE MEYERS there appeared to be the same attitude in the Maryland-D. C. District, but facts had to be faced and these facts indicated that GATES had been working with the enemies of the Party for a long time.

JOHNSON then said that the JOHN GATES situation could not be allowed to hang fire and it must be made clear to all CP members that GATES had directly attacked the CP through the capitalist press and by appearing on television with MIKE WALLACE.

JOHNSON then blamed the decline in Daily Worker and Worker subscriptions as having been caused by JOHN GATES. He said he based this upon reports from various Districts.

JOHNSON said he believed that the EUGENE DENNIS forces would win but that the struggle would not be easy and all the CP members were needed to support the Party at the present time.

JOHNSON then commented that from the discussions heard and from what he had learned generally while in Baltimore, he believed that MEYERS would be able to bring a good report from the District so far as membership was concerned.

JOHNSON then said that he had been in Washington, D. C., on January 28, 1958, and had met with a couple of labor leaders in order to determine their general approach to the Party. JOHNSON said they were noncommittal, neither attacking the Party nor speaking in favor of it.

At this point in the meeting LEE opened up the brown package that he had brought with him. It was addressed to him via Greyhound Bus Lines and contained 50 copies of the January Political Affairs and 10 copies of Masses and Mainstream. LEE gave 22 copies of Political Affairs and 4 copies of Masses and Mainstream to GERENDE. GREEN took 5 Political Affairs and MEYERS took 10 Political Affairs and 2 Masses and Mainstream.

MEYERS then handed GREEN 5 copies of the January 26, 1958, Sunday Worker.

MEYERS then brought out a bundle of about 150 copies of

[REDACTED]

the latest issue of Party Affairs and passed a number of copies to all present except JOHNSON.

MEYERS then passed to all present a copy of a 14 page pamphlet entitled, "A Substitute Labor Policy Statement Submitted by the Indiana State CP, USA."

MEYERS then proposed that JOHNSON should get \$25.00 for expenses. GREEN seconded the motion.

JOHNSON said the National Committee in New York had given him \$25.00 for expenses, and that he thought \$15.00 would be enough.

GERENDE interrupted JOHNSON, saying that \$15.00 was not enough and that it was worth a great deal more to have a national leader come to Baltimore and speak frankly on the situation in the CP.

MEYERS then called for a vote, and it was voted that \$25.00 be given to JOHNSON.

GERENDE then went to the closet and brought forth a large brown envelope and from within the large envelope took a small white envelope from which she got one ten dollar bill and three five dollar bills which she handed to JOHNSON.

MEYERS then read a letter from the national leadership requesting all National Committee members to bring \$75.00 to the next National Committee meeting. MEYERS explained that this was to be used as an expense fund.

LEE asked why Baltimore should have to give \$75.00 since their expenses would be so little in comparison.

JOHNSON said that the CP was in difficult straits so far as money was concerned, and that the \$75.00 from each District would be divided up and used to pay the expenses of those who had to come long distances by plane and due to the fact that they would be away from their jobs for several days would lose working time. JOHNSON added, however, that the District Board could vote against providing the \$75.00 if they so

[REDACTED]

desired.

All agreed to give the \$75.00 to MEYERS.

MEYERS then announced that on February 14, 1958, the National Executive Committee meeting of the CP would be held in New York and the National Committee meeting would follow on February 15-16, 1958, in New York.

MEYERS then stated that the next District Board meeting would be held at LEE's home on Monday night, February 3, 1958.

The meeting then broke up about 11:30 PM."

This memo has been compared with the informant's original statement and it is accurate in substance.

The person referred to on page 2 as GEORGE MEYERS' father-in-law is PETER TOORKS.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 3/13/58

FROM : P.E. CASEY, ASSIGNMENT CARDS

SUBJECT: Communist Party, U.S.A., Membership
100-80638

NEW ASSIGNMENT CARD PREPARED SHOWING LAST POSTING
AND LAST ASSIGNMENT,. OLD CARD ATTACHED HERETO.

100-80638-1411
JEP JEP

WMA

Title

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
MEMBERSHIP

File No: 100-80638

IS-C

Date Rec.: 2-14-48

Office of Origin:

NEW YORK

Assigned to (date)

J.V. WATERS 3-16-53

Reassigned to (date)

~~19~~ NYC

19-1

3/13/53

FD-TC

For prior info see memo 5-11-56

4-19-56 P*

9-19-57P

5-24-56 acting 10/18/57P

7-20-56 P

12/6/57P

10-19-56 P

1-20-57P

12-13-56P

print

1-18-57-P

4-19-57P*

2/10/58

Dallas, Texas
February 25, 1958

MEMO, SAC:

RE: CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

On 2/17/58, SA [] received a typewritten report, dated 2/16/58, from security informant, [] who has furnished reliable information in the past. This report has been serialized as []

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On Monday, January 27, 1958, [] and [] met for coffee at Titcher-Goettinger Department Store, Dallas, and at that time [] stated that she had enjoyed her discussion with [] stated that she had met [] during CP activity while in New York.

b6
b7C

[] told [] that she was talking about a mutual friend of hers and [], who had come from out of town.

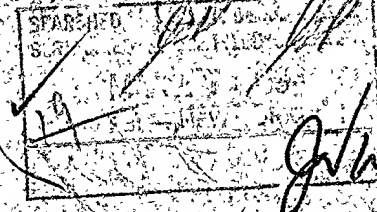
b6
b7C
b7D

[]
Special Agent

- 1 - 100-8242 []
- 1 - 100-10168 []
- 1 - 100-7929 []
- 1 - 100-10197 []
- ① - NEW YORK (INFO) (REGISTERED MAIL)
- 1 - 100-671-4

WHB/gjk
(7)

*Photostat copy to
100-93668 (M. Friedlander)*



OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603-C320)
(12-10)

DATE: 3/10/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED] (7)

SUBJECT: CP, USA
KINGSBRIDGE
IS - C

SAC
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
SEC. 8
SEC. 9
SEC. 10
SEC. 11
SEC. 12
SEC. 13
SEC. 14
SEC. 15
SEC. 16
SEC. 17
SEC. 18
SEC. 19
SEC. 20

Identity of Source [REDACTED], who has furnished reliable info in past.
(conceal)

b6
b7C
b7D

Description of Info 1/13/58

Date Received 2/3/58

Received By

SA [REDACTED]

Original Located [REDACTED]

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting the following information in order to protect the identity of the informant.

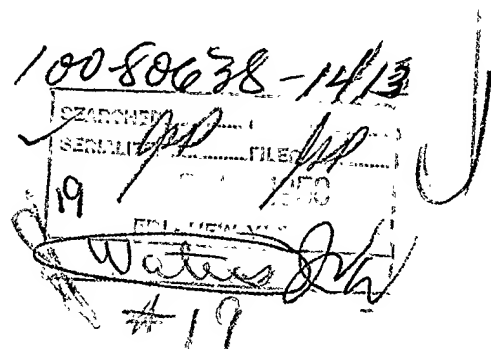
By report dated 1/19/58, [REDACTED] furnished information regarding the CP in the Kingsbridge area, NYC.

1-NY (100-26603-C40) (CP BRONX CO.) (12-10)
1-NY (100-69941) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (100-25821) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (100-132945) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (100-123890) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (100-133788) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (100-129802) (CP, USA COUNTER INTELLIGENCE) (19)
1-NY (100-80638) (CP, USA MEMBERSHIP) (19)
1-NY (100-83215) [REDACTED] (12-10)
1-NY (97-169) (WORKER) (7-2)
1-NY (100-133090) (COMMITTEE FOR SANE NUCLEAR POLICY) (7-2)
1-NY (100-102697) (INFILTRATION - MASS ORGANIZATIONS)
1-NY (100-95583) CP LINE (19)
1-NY (100-26603-C320) (12-10)

b6
b7C
b7D

JPH:ume
(15)

WTR



NY 100-26603-C320

Report

Communist Party U.S.A.
Activities.

Jan. 19, 1958

A meeting of the Northwest Bronx Section of the Communist Party was held on Jan. 13th, 1958 at the apart. [redacted] Perry Ave., Bronx, N.Y.

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The following members were present at this meeting: [redacted]

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The main point of discussion was the question of registration of the C.P. members in the section.

[redacted] who chaired the meeting, said that each area in the section registrated "a number of members" but "we are far behind the 1956 registration." She proposed to step up the registration campaign.

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[redacted] told the meeting that her C.P. club registered 8 members and that the club decided to go after those who left the C.P. Since the 1956 registration.

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b7C

[redacted] claimed that her club didn't meet for months. She registered 4 members and she will keep on trying to register the rest of the members. She stated that she approached Carl Trost but he refused to register, but she will keep on trying. "I belive there is a good chance that Carl will eventually reregister."

b6
b7C

[redacted] raised the question of dividing the areas into clubs.

b6
b7C

[redacted] opposed this suggestion: "lets wait until we will be trough with the registration."

NY 100-26603-C320

The meeting also discussed "The Worker." [redacted] stated that "The Worker" is in a "grave condition. It will be impossible to build the party (C.P.) without The Worker. It was bad enough that we were compelled to suspend the Daily Worker but should this happen to "The Worker" to we might as well kiss good-bye to the party. The party can not survive without the press. As a matter of fact we must keep on thinking in terms of renewing the publication of the Daily Worker."

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b7C

[redacted] called for a drive in this section to raise funds for the Worker.

[redacted] stated that the raising of funds for the Worker is important but still more important is to regain the lost readers. He said that this section decided to combine the registration with the campaign for subs, as far as he knows, not one sub-new or renewal - was obtained during the few weeks of the registration campaign. "It looks that we are good followers of our top leadership. While the "Duclos" and the "Toglialees" of the party, of the U.S. Communist Party, are engaged in theorizing about theory and arguing about policy the party is slowly but surely disintegrating. We here also are arguing and discussing while the members are leaving us and the press, well, one paper died and the other one, The Worker, is in an advanced stage of cancer. Only subs and funds might still save The Worker."

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The meeting decided to concentrate during the next few weeks on getting subs and raising funds in the section__

[redacted] proposed to involve all of the C.P. areas in the Northwest section in the work of the "Bronx Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy." She claimed that the organization of neighborhood committees for a sane nuclear policy "will serve to satisfy the desire of our members to do mass work. It will be easy to organize such committees

b6
b7C

NY 100-26603-C320

because the people want peace. They are afraid of an atomic war and the poisenious effect of the fall-outs." The discussions on this subject led the meeting to the conclusion that the organization of neighborhood committees for a sane nuclear policy "will serve the purpose of organizing the people for the struggle for peace and coexistence." [redacted] while agreeing with this conclusion, claimed that "at this stage of affairs in the party, especially in our section, we can not afford to trow in our forces into one project. It will divert our limited membership from our main, at present at least, objectives: the building of the party and the press." He suggested to turn over this question to the county committee for discussion. The meeting agreed with this proposals and also decided to continue discussions on this subjects at the meetings of this section committee.

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b7C

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Northwest Bronx Section Committee at the same place on Jan. 28th, 1958.

J. Morris.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York (100-80638)

DATE: March 11, 1958

FROM : Director, FBI (100-3-4)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
MEMBERSHIP
NEW YORK DISTRICT
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

The Bureau has reviewed your letter of February 7, 1958, in which you set forth the organizational structure and membership of the Communist Party (CP) as known to you at this time. It is also noted that [redacted] advised as of January 20, 1958, that 1,750 CP members had been registered for the New York District.

From a check of the figures contained in referenced letter, there are approximately 1,400 CP members that are unidentified in the New York area. This represents a considerable amount of investigation to establish their identity. Your bimonthly letters reflecting the progress you are making in this regard will be closely followed at the Bureau.

The Party's success in the current registration does not appear to be overwhelming on the basis of the latest returns. However, it would also appear that returns are coming in rather slowly and, in addition, there undoubtedly will be numerous individuals who will remain Party members without actually registering. Such conditions should be kept in mind in arriving at any estimated membership figures and it is believed that any decrease by your office in the estimated membership figures without substantial proof would be improper and misleading. It is not felt that registration figures alone are sufficient for areas in which the membership has shown a marked decrease. The fact remains that many have either not been contacted for registration or refrain from registering. Such possibilities should be taken into account before any arbitrary reduction in estimated membership figures is effected.

1cc placed in 100-128817 per SA [redacted] 19-2

100-80638-1414

AS [redacted] ASB [redacted]
See me [redacted] 12-79

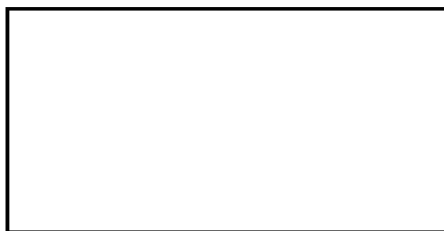
Dallas, Texas
2/24/58

MEMO SAC:

RE: [REDACTED]

SM - C

On 1/27/58, a typewritten report dated 1/25/58, filed in [REDACTED] was received by mail by SA [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] who report concerning a CP meeting at 1423 Clinton Street, Ft. Worth, Texas, on 1/24/58, beginning at 8:30 p.m. and attended by the following:



According to [REDACTED] told the CP group that she came to Ft. Worth on 1/24/58 at 12:30 p.m. from Dallas; that she contacted [REDACTED] from the Continental Bus Station upon arrival in Ft. Worth, but [REDACTED] had no automobile in which to pick [REDACTED] up and that [REDACTED] had taken a cab to the [REDACTED] home. [REDACTED] was supposed to have contacted EARLENE MARTIN, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] after she had heard from [REDACTED] had to rush to her work and upon arrival at her employment, she was unable to contact these members.

1 - 100-8254

1 - 100-8149
1 - 100-8561
1 - 100-10175
1 - 100-10176
1 - 100-10174
1 - 100-10197

5 - New York (REGISTERED MAIL)

1 - 100-671-1 (Funds)

1 - 100-671-8 (Political Activities)

JWF:nlf
(15)

100-80638-1415

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI - NEW YORK	

DL-100-8254

The main topic for the meeting was an idea of [] to the effect that party members, along with other Negro citizens of Ft. Worth should contact DOUG CROUCH; a candidate for District Attorney in Tarrant County, and ask him if he would be willing to appoint a Negro Assistant District Attorney in the event he was elected; that if he would be so willing, then all Negroes along with his other fans would back his campaign legally. b6 b7C

[] thought the idea excellent and expressed regret that her stay in Texas was so brief that she would be unable to see the outcome. b6 b7C

[] were elected by the group to contact other citizens of the city to be on the committee. b6 b7C

[] was the only one in the CP group who knew DOUG CROUCH personally and he was appointed to contact him at a specific time at which time the committee would meet with him. b6 b7C

Contacts were to have been made on 1/25/58. On the night of 1/25/58, [] was suppose to call [] and [] to see what additional persons could be added to the committee to contact DOUG CROUCH. b6 b7C

According to [] the next topic for discussion at the meeting on 1/24/58, was the amount of dues to be paid by each party member on a monthly basis. According to [] all female members present paid \$1 and the males present paid \$2 or more. Half of the total of monthly dues collected were turned over to [] for National CP purposes. b6 b7C

[] told the CP group that if they had not received their NAACP memberships for the year that she would write them up at the next meeting. b6 b7C

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m. [] drove [] to the Continental Bus Station to enable her to catch a bus to Dallas at 12:10 p.m. [] said she would like to stay in Ft. Worth until Saturday morning, 1/25/58, but that she had to get back to Dallas to see if she had any other orders before she left for New York on Saturday afternoon. She said that she would return to Texas in the near future. b6 b7C b7D

[] reported also concerning the above meeting of 1/24/58.)

/s/ SA []

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK

DATE: 3/13/58

FROM : SAC, DALLAS

SUBJECT: CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP (100-671-4)
IS - C

SM - C

(100-8254)

no ny file

Enclosed herewith for the New York Office are five copies of a channelization memo prepared from an original report submitted by [redacted] This report was received by SA [redacted] on 1/27/58, dated 1/25/58, and has been serialized as [redacted]

b6
b7C

Also enclosed for the New York Office is one copy of a channelization memo prepared from an original report submitted by [redacted] This report was received by SA [redacted] on 2/17/58, dated 2/16/58, and has been serialized as [redacted]

b6
b7C

- 2 - New York (RM) *benches for below*
2 - Dallas
(1 - 100-671-4)
(1 - 100-8254)

WHB:hmd
(4)

DL 20-S m/fk rpt

- 1cc 100-93665 (m & medden) 19-2
1cc 100-131666 Sub D (CP-Southern Region)
1cc 100-128894 (Harold Mann) TR
1cc 100-128893 (Betty Mann)
1cc 100-80626 (CPUSA-Membership) 100-3438-1416

Waters

SEARCHED <i>yes</i>	INDEXED <i>yes</i>
SERIALIZED <i>yes</i>	FILED <i>yes</i>
APR 17 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

DATE: 3/13/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - ORGANIZATION
IS - C

Care must be utilized in handling and reporting the following information, since the very nature of this information tends to disclose the identity of a highly placed and sensitive informant.

On 2/13/58, NY 2179-S* advised that on above date a subcommittee consisting of EUGENE DENNIS, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, CARL WINTER and SID STEIN, met in the third floor board room, Communist Party Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, NYC. Informant reported that the meeting began at 8:00 P.M. and ended approximately 11:30 P.M.

- 3 - Bureau (100-3-69)(RM)
(1-100-3-104)(CP, USA - COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM)
- 4 - Chicago (100-18953)(RM)
(1-A/134-46)
(1-61-867)(CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
(1-100-18001)(FRED FINE)
- 2 - Detroit (100-2050)(RM)
(1-100-13420)(CARL WINTER)
- 1 - Los Angeles (100-26044)(RM)
- 2 - San Francisco (100-27747)(RM)
(1-100-) (WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN)
- 1 - New York (100-87211)(CP, USA - FACTIONALISM)(#19-1)
- ① - New York (100-80638)(CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-4931)(CP, USA)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-130507)(ATTEMPTS OF CP TO FORM BROAD SOCIALIST ORGANIZATION)
- 1 - New York (100-26603)(CP, USA - NEW YORK STATE DISTRICT)(#19-2)
- 1 - New York (100-86624)(CP, USA - INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-17923)(JOHN GATES)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-50090)(SID STEIN)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-8057)(EUGENE DENNIS)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-89816)(FRED FINE)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-13480)(JOE STAROBIN)(#12-14)
- 1 - New York (100-14606)(JOE CLARK)(#20-1)
- 1 - New York (100-23825)(BEN DAVIS, JR.)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-27452)(ROBERT THOMPSON)(#19-1)
- 1 - New York (100-80641)

HCO:bfh
(27)

100-80638-1417

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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NY 100-80641

The following is a report of the highlights and most important statements made at the meeting of the subcommittee as reported by NY 2179-S*. The meeting pertained to a discussion of a document that is to be discussed further at the National Executive Committee meeting scheduled for the following day:

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER opened the discussion by stating that he and CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT) "worked on" this document. He stated that there would be people who would either add to it or subtract from it. He said that this would be "all right" because when people make their proposals for change, it will become crystal clear what if anything stands between us and it will serve a useful purpose.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that the subcommittee should get "E" for effort and added that he appreciated the earnestness with which both of you worked on this (document). He said that there would be some questions he would like to raise because he (DENNIS) did not approach this merely in terms of an improvement in relation to the California "thing". DENNIS stated "we" have to ask ourselves with regard to every document, what is the cutting edge? What are the controversial questions? He said that there are questions that we will have to come to "grips" with, adding that whatever "we" adopt must provide a clear and unmistakable guide for the National Committee and subcommittees.

Continuing, DENNIS remarked that he found it difficult in going through the document to see why "you comrades" did not come to grips with the question of (JOHN) GATES. He said that "they" must come to grips with these very divergent opinions in the ranks....in regards to the united party of socialism. He said that in New York and

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in the districts there are certain views in respect to what GATES has held adding that SID (STEIN) and FRED (FINE) have expressed points of view.

SID STEIN interrupted and stated that the resolution expressed a point of view, and then STEIN asked "what's your idea of a united party of socialism"? and then exclaimed "where everybody will agree with everything we say".

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT interrupted and stated that they were getting into an abstract discussion.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN again spoke and commented to the effect that they must find some way of setting up a federation by which we "are a part of the socialist movement...if that is possible and still have Marxism".

STEIN further stated that he did not want to tell (JOE) CLARK, (JOHN) GATES and (JOE) STAROBIN that "they" were cut of the socialist movement. He said that he could not see blasting everybody else "and crawling into our shell". STEIN said that "we" should have more of an open face instead of a garrison beleaguered on all sides. "This Party" needs to act like a party that makes decisions, carries them out and knows it is going in one direction and not seven directions at the same time.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT stated that he did not think that "this document" should get into the question of Party program, adding that the document should do no more than put it in a vague and general sense, with some sentences in it with

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regard to the vanguard role" of our Party". He said that the leadership has as one of its tasks the building of the Party. He commented that "we" are giving "our Party" perspective and added that he was not ready to debate and discuss this united party of socialism. He said that he did not see any immediate practicality of this question until "we" see a change in the labor movement.

Informant reported that SID STEIN interrupted LIGHTFOOT saying "it will be soon".

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT continued his remarks by saying that it might be in two years or five years but our main task now is to build and expand the influence of the American Communist Party.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that to him (DENNIS) it (united party of socialism) is a very pressing and vital question as it has a very direct bearing on what this Party is doing today. It has a direct bearing on what has happened, particularly here in New York. It has a direct bearing on (JOHN) GATES, (JOE) CLARK, (JOE) STAROBIN and others. It is not an academic question. It governs the approach of a great many comrades to their views and their ideologies, adding it is the bridge we have to some of these people today and the bridge tomorrow. It has a bearing on the party we are building today.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented in effect that the first time a mass party of socialism was suggested, it was criticized as "liquidatory". It was stated very clearly that such a party would have to be based on Marxism - Leninism. He commented that the Social - Democratic Party of Czarist Russia, was not a Marxism - Leninism Party, and

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added that it (mass party of socialism) is probably going to be built in spite of us.

LIGHTFOOT stated that "we" do not want to be like the British Communist Party, having as one of its aims to get into the British Labor Party. "We" want to be there to condition this party along certain lines and should strive to make it a Marxist - Leninist party. LIGHTFOOT said that he would not put as a pre-condition that you are not going to have anything but Marxists - Leninists in it (mass party of socialism). He said that there are some comrades who have their minds so glued to the mass party of socialism that they are not doing much to build this party (Communist Party).

LIGHTFOOT stated that he has no objection to the adding of phrases (to this document) about building and consolidating the Communist Party, but he remarked that he does not want to get off into the question of a united party of socialism. He said that he is not as optimistic as SID (STEIN) that this thing is going to happen and added that much has to occur before he (LIGHTFOOT) sees any such mass possibilities. He said that when we reach that stage, we can discuss it. I think we ought to be in on the ground floor definitely, but as to "form and character", it can not be foreseen now.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

Informant related that DENNIS, in a loud and irritated manner, stated that it (the united party of socialism) happens to be one of the things that is undermining the Party in New York, adding that it might have no effect in Illinois, though he would question it.

Informant reported that LIGHTFOOT then asked "Do you have any practical suggestions, Gene?"

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DENNIS continued by stating that the document should be typed and mimeographed and anything that is "fuzzy" he wants to sharpen in order to establish clarity so this committee can decide. We will find a number of things we won't account for because we will be unable to get agreement.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER suggested that there be two types of amendments to the document, the first kind of amendment would be one that would be most likely to gain support for the document. The second type of amendment would be one that would not get the greatest united support. He then commented that the Party membership is not getting any enlightenment from "us" by being divided on the question of "left sectarianism and revisionism".

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented in effect that he had just one last word to add, that is, that they should not go on any "vendettas", commenting that the problem of building and consolidating (the Party) is the main task in point.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that "we" have the DENNIS and the STEIN reports, where we put strongly on the basis of our convictions certain opinions. He then exclaimed what did we compromise?...was principle involved.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER stated that in his opinion, they should "curb" both the ultraleft and the right.

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Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN then asked "does the document squarely reaffirm the Convention?" You see when you start bargaining here first on the California document then on this document, you will meet (BOB) THOMPSON's objections and (BEN) DAVIS' objections. He added that there will be comrades such as BOB THOMPSON who will "hit the ceiling" when he reads this document.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that from a hurried reading of the document, he would make basic amendments, not just amendments, but basic ones.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER remarked that whatever the amendments would be if they can be encompassed in the framework of what we are trying to do here, namely, to clarify what reaffirmation of the convention means and will mobilize the Party to consolidate its ranks on the line of the convention, then "I" am ready for all kinds of amendments. I am ready to move over in order to gain support for that. That is one kind of an amendment. If there should be some amendments that would be clearly contrary to that direction, I would welcome those amendments in order to have a clear cut, crystal position in the eyes of the Party membership.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that they should take it (document) into the NEC tomorrow adding that they won't get through without some basic amendments. STEIN commented further in effect that he would let certain things stand " for the sake of keeping it from blowing up". He added that he would

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sharpen it in one direction, while GENE (DENNIS) would sharpen it in another direction.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that it was unfortunate in his judgment that "our" committee did not have on it a spokesman from the ultraleft. He added that some comrades say "GENE" is a spokesman of the left and commented that this is nonsense.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT stated that there are profound differences within the Party which this document does not touch and that will not be involved in this document. He said the document was not designed to try to solve the differences in the Party. All that it tries to do is to give an immediate bridge upon which to work on and that is to get out the mandates of the 16th National Convention. He added that in his opinion, they were trying to accomplish too much at one stroke.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN commented that the main question is the Party's isolation. He then spoke of his report wherein he cited the reasons why the right tendencies occurred - because "we" did not carry out the line of the Convention. STEIN also mentioned the Twelve Party Declaration, saying he was for the "spirit" of the Twelve Party Declaration. Informant reported that LIGHTFOOT interrupted STEIN and commented that "GENE" (DENNIS) has been studying it too, to which STEIN retorted that "GENE" is for "endorsing" it (Twelve Party Declaration).

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Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented that they should come to some agreement in the Party on what they do agree on. Informant reported that CARL WINTER interrupted by stating in effect unless we agree that there is not enough that we agree on to make it possible. He added that he did not believe that that was the case.

Informant related that at this point EUGENE DENNIS stated that he would like to be excused from the meeting. LIGHTFOOT then asked DENNIS to remain until he finished his point.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that he wanted to criticize left sectarianism and dogmatism in his own way.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented that you (DENNIS) will criticize them self-righteously. He said that he wanted to make his point and petitioned DENNIS to at least meet him half way. LIGHTFOOT commented that the question is how to deal with danger, not the sharp edge that you want to put in the document.

Informant reported that SID STEIN then attempted to make a point to which EUGENE DENNIS commented "shut up" and DENNIS again stated that he would like to be excused from the meeting.

Informant reported that LIGHTFOOT continued speaking apparently directing his words at DENNIS, saying that since he (DENNIS) is leaving, he (LIGHTFOOT) has no idea of his thinking and added what is the point of having

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a committee of four people "if it is just Carl (WINTER) and myself".

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated to the group that they knew where he stood.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER commented that if it (document) becomes a vehicle to play into the hands of either side, he would not have any part of it either.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that he did not give a damn about the formulation provided it was seriously carried out. He said that he knew as sure as he was sitting there, that neither GENE DENNIS, BOB THOMPSON nor BEN DAVIS are for this kind of an approach. I know it not on the basis of what they write, and I am not going to say that they are dishonest but more specifically about what they do. They are not for this and their amendments will show that I am right.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER stated that he did not know whether he was making any sense or not and added that in his opinion, there are two kinds of amendments. There are the kind of amendments which you may not agree with, but in the same sense or spirit in which the whole document is presented - you agree with it taken as a whole. You have to realize that we have this kind of a party today with this kind of a situation. You have got to be able to move forward. I will assure you that this is not my thinking and this is

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not my document, but I accepted a lot of things in order to meet a situation.

Informant reported that the meeting ended with CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT commenting to CARL WINTER to look him up the next day for the report, to which WINTER retorted "what is there to report"?

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-128813) 19-2 DATE: 3/13/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED] (19)

SUBJECT: CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - PAMPHLETS
& PUBLICATIONS
IS-C

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b7c

On 2/4/58, NY 2179-S* advised as follows concerning a meeting of staff members held on that date in the Second Floor Board Room (New York State Board Room) at CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, NYC.

1 - NY (100-23825) (BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-9595) (WILLIAM WEINSTONE) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-469) (BILL LAWRENCE) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-50806) (GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY) (19-2)
1 - NY (65-5604) (WILLIAM ALBERTSON) (12-11)
1 - NY (100-128817) (CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - MEMBERSHIP) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-80638) (CPUSA - MEMBERSHIP) (19-1)
1 - NY (97-169) (PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS) (7-2)
1 - NY (100-84275) (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-80640) (CPUSA - NEGRO QUESTION) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-128815) (CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - NEGRO QUESTION) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-16785) (JIM JACKSON) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-128814) (CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - ORGANIZATION) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-80641) (CPUSA - ORGANIZATION) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-25857) (PAUL ROBESON) (12-16)
1 - NY (100-81675) (CPUSA - PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-10989) (NEW CENTURY PUBLISHERS) (7-2)
1 - NY (100-120128) (PARTY VOICE) (12-14)
1 - NY (100-128314) (CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - FUNDS) (19-2)
1 - NY (100-47142) (MAY DAY ACTIVITIES) (7-2)
1 - NY (100-74560) (CPUSA - FUNDS) (19-1)
1 - NY (100-128813) (19-2)

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100-80638-1416

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SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - NEW YORK	

MEMO
NY 100-128813

UTMOST CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN THE REPORTING OF/OR IN ANY OTHER USE MADE OF INFORMATION FURNISHED BY NY 2179-S* SINCE THE VERY NATURE OF THE INFORMATION TENDS TO DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF THIS HIGHLY PLACED AND SENSITIVE INFORMANT.

Present at the meeting, according to the informant, were: BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., WILLIAM WEINSTONE, BILL LAWRENCE, GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY, WILLIAM ALBERTSON, and possibly others.

In response to an inquiry, BEN DAVIS was informed that further figures on CP registrations in the Upstate areas would be available next month.

During discussion believed to be concerned with the proposed special Negro History Week edition of "The Worker", LAWRENCE estimated the cost of the issue at \$2,000, figured at the rate of \$20 per thousand. He suggested that the State Organization could advance \$500 to "Pat" (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) if that is the extent of his need. WEINSTONE predicted that thousands of Negroes in mass organizations could be counted upon to purchase copies; agreed that it would be well to include in the issue special articles designed to reach all members, in-active members, and sympathizers. He endorsed the combining of "George's and Bill's proposals" by arranging to acquire and send out 500 or one thousand copies, requesting the recipients to note the quality of the issue, and to subscribe to the publication. He agreed that this was a great responsibility, but predicted that if left to the counties to handle, it would be "snafued".

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NY 100-128813

DAVIS suggested that consideration be given to including JACKSON's article on the South in the special issue.

There was general agreement that it would be appropriate for the Party to have a special drive for the purpose of pushing PAUL ROBESON's book. BEN DAVIS emphatically urged the purchasing and subsequent resale by the New York State Organization of 1000 copies of ROBESON's book. Three alternatives for securing copies for such a purpose were discussed, and it was generally agreed that the last of these was the most suitable:

1. By-passing New Century (the national distributor) and purchasing directly from Othello (PH) (publishers).
2. Purchasing directly from New Century for resale to membership. (Credit problem here too difficult).
3. Taking orders, accepting money, and having New Century handle the actual distribution of the books.

In a discussion about "P. V." (Party Voice), WEINSTONE asserted that the lack of a monthly publication has prevented them from getting Party decisions to the membership, and as a result, these decisions are now passed down by word of mouth and suffer^{according to} those repeating them. There was general agreement that now that the "Daily Worker" has gone, a monthly is needed. WEINSTONE estimated the cost of putting out a monthly at \$6000 a year. He decried the financial difficulties involved in publishing "P. V.", suggesting that it would cost approximately

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\$500 to \$700 per issue for several thousand copies, and pointing out that they do not have people on the payroll to handle the editorial work. LAWRENCE expressed favor of a modest edition consisting of anywhere from eight to twelve pages, and the limitation of production to about 2500 copies per issue, in order to cut costs. A discussion of deadlines for the first issue ensued, during which April 1st was the day most frequently mentioned. However, to the informant's knowledge, no definite decisions as to date were arrived at. The suggestion was made that "P. V." be made the official organ of the State Committee; that it have a section for the discussion of State Committee policies and campaigns, and a section for the expression of views of the "comrades".

An individual, whose identity was not known for certain to the informant, but is believed to be WILLIAM PATTERSON, during a discussion of the problems involved in publishing "The Worker", complained that more money was spent last week than received; that he needs \$480 "today"; also \$268.80; that the \$100 judgment fee due each Monday had not been paid this week. His request for money drew the response that the paper got \$20,000 in the last few weeks, and declarations that there was no more money available.

It was generally agreed that an option should be taken on Carnegie Hall for a May Day celebration, but that no commitments should be made until they had determined the feeling of the Party as to whether such a celebration should be an independent affair, or a united front celebration which would include other Socialist groups.

All pertinent items in this memorandum have been furnished previously to the Bureau by airtel under the above caption.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM . UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

DATE: 3/14/58

SUBJECT: CP, USA - ORGANIZATION
IS - C

CLASSIFICATION BY 6076m 9-11-78
EXEMPT FROM GDS. CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CARE MUST BE UTILIZED IN HANDLING AND
REPORTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, SINCE THE VERY
NATURE OF THIS INFORMATION TENDS TO DISCLOSE THE
IDENTITY OF A HIGHLY PLACED AND SENSITIVE INFORMANT.

2-Bureau (100-3-69) (RM)
2-Baltimore (100-) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-) (GEORGE MEYERS)
5-Chicago (100-18953) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-A/134-46)
 (1-100-18001) (FRED FINE)
 (1-61-867) (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
 (1-100-) (SAM KUSHNER)
2-Cleveland (100-) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-) (HY LUMER)
2-Detroit (100-2050) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-13420) (CARL WINTER)
2-Indianapolis (100-) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-) (MANNY BLUM)
4-Los Angeles (100-26044) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-) (DOROTHY HEALEY)
 (1-100-) (BILL SCHNEIDERMAN)
 (1-100-)
2-Minneapolis (100-1878P) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-6379) (CARL ROSS)
2-Milwaukee (100-) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-) (ALAN SHAW)
3-Newark (100-) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-100-19491) (PATRICK TOOHEY)
 (1-100-2974)
2-San Francisco (100-27747) (CP, USA - ORGANIZATION) (RM)
 (1-65-1242) (MICKIE LIMA)
1-New York (100-80641)

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[Handwritten signatures and initials over the stamp]

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1-New York (100-50090) (SID STEIN) (19-1)
1-New York (100-18065) (JACK STACHEL) (19-1)
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1-New York (100-84275) (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) (19-2)
1-New York (100-16785) (JAMES E. JACKSON) (19-1)
1-New York (100-20128) (ALEXANDER BITTELMAN)
1-New York (100-) (ERIC BURT)
1-New York (100-16021) (ARNOLD JOHNSON) (19-2)
1-New York (100-) (MIRIAM FRIEDLANDER)
1-New York (100-13203) (GEORGE MORRIS)
1-New York (65-5604) (BILL ALBERTSON) (19-2)
1-New York (100-18673) (GEORGE WATT) (19-2)
1-New York (100-9352) (A.B. MAGIL) (12-16)
1-New York (100-97167) (Political Affairs) (7-2)
1-New York (100-89590) (Strategy in Industry)
1-New York (100-87211) (CP,USA - Factionalism) (19-1)
1-New York (100-74560) (CP,USA - FUNDS) (19-1)
1-New York (100-81338) (CP,USA - Security Measures) (19-1)
1-New York (100-130507) (Attempts of CP to form Broad
Socialist Movement) (19-1)
1-New York (100-89691) (CP,USA - Domestic Administration) (19-1)
1-New York (100-4931) (CP,USA) (19-1)
1-New York (100-129802) (CP,USA - Counter-Intelligence
Program) (19-0)
1-New York (100-86624) (CP,USA - International Relations) (19-1)
1-New York (100-80638) (CP,USA - Membership) (19-1)
1-New York (100-95583) (CP,USA - Line) (19-1)
1-New York (100-80640) (CP,USA - Negro Question) (19-1)
1-New York (97-169) (Publishers New Press) (7-2)
1-New York (100-17923) (JOHN GATES) (19-1)
1-New York (100-49430) (PATRICK TOOHEY) (7-0)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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NY 100-80641

The following is a report of the highlights and most important statements made at the meeting of the National Executive Committee (NEC), CP, USA held in NYC on 2/14/58, as reported by NY 2179-S*.

The following individuals were believed by informant to be in attendance:

EUGENE DENNIS
FRED FINE
BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.
GEORGE MEYERS
GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY
SID STEIN
JACK STACHEL
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
ROBERT THOMPSON
JAMES E. JACKSON
DOROTHY HEALEY

[REDACTED]
CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT
CARL WINTER and others not identified.

A surveillance of CP Headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, NYC, by Special Agents of the FBI determined that the following individuals were observed entering CP Headquarters on above date:

MICKIE LIMA
HY LUMER
[REDACTED]
EMANUEL BLUM
[REDACTED]
SAM KUSHNER

Informant reported that GEORGE MEYERS acted as Chairman for the meeting. The meeting opened

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by an unidentified individual stating that Comrade (BILL) LAWRENCE should be invited into the meeting at 3:00 p.m. as a special order of business.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that he concurred with the recommendation of BOB THOMPSON to set up a sub-committee which was to meet during the luncheon hours. DENNIS mentioned that a "hell of a lot is involved in this." He then referred to BILL LAWRENCE'S letter adding that there should not have been such a letter.

Remarks of FRED FINE

FINE then asked why is it better to know peace meal adding that he did not know whether there would be any better security in reports. (Believed FINE is referring to report of sub-committee on BILL LAWRENCE letter.)

Remarks of BEN DAVIS

DAVIS stated that (WILLIAM L.) PATTERSON was unable to be here (meeting). He said that the LAWRENCE letter was written without any consultation with the staff. He said that finances should be kept out of factional dispute, adding if this could not be done they should not only have BILL LAWRENCE but also CHARLIE LOMAN and others. DAVIS stated that not to invite others (to the discussion) would not be fair and that they should not draw this committee (NEC) into a sort of supreme court without facts. Continuing; DAVIS remarked that further damage to the party would result and would present a picture of national leadership involved in a "hell of a donnybrooke" over finances.

Remarks of SID STEIN

Informant reported that STEIN referring

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to CHARLIE LOMAN asked "Will he give the facts?" STEIN continued by saying that he understood that he would not. DAVIS answered STEIN'S query by remarking that he had no indication that LOMAN would not give the facts.

Remarks of JACK STACHEL

STACHEL then referred to the (BILL) LAWRENCE report commenting that he (LAWRENCE) believes that certain action is going to be necessary.. STACHEL commented that action has to be taken which will affect others and therefore has to be handled in a very responsible way.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY commented that she did not care what the consequences were, adding that ultimately this body (NEC) is going to have a responsibility. She remarked that in her opinion she did not think it wise to set up a new sub-committee when the present sub-committee could not accomplish its job. She recommended that CHARLIE (LOMAN) should be invited (to the meeting) when BILL (LAWRENCE) appears.

Remarks of FRED FINE

FINE commented that JACK (STACHEL) said there is enough facts but FINE complained that he (FINE) was not in possession of all the facts. He recommended that they have a 3:00 p.m. meeting and have BOB'S (THOMPSON) sub-committee report as well as having LAWRENCE and LOMAN present. FINE added that he did not know what was in the LAWRENCE letter.

Remarks of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

FLYNN commented about the lack of security with regard to the LAWRENCE letter. She

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added that lately security has been completely thrown out of the window and there is no regard for the possibility of action against our organization by outside force. She added that she was sure that everyone understood that "we are not free from investigation and attack."

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that the sub-committee should make recommendations and then the National Committee will accept it.

Remarks of BOB THOMPSON

THOMPSON stated that he was in favor of this committee having full power and added that they should not prejudice the handling of the question.

Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, spoke and recommended that the Sub-committee be set up and have it report back to the Executive Committee later that day. Informant reported that among the names mentioned for the Sub-committee were the following:

CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT)

CARL (WINTER)

DOROTHY HEALEY

EUGENE DENNIS

GEORGE MEYERS, with ROBERT THOMPSON to act as Chairman of the Sub-committee. Informant reported that CARL WINTER suggested that JIM JACKSON replace him at this sub-committee.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN then spoke concerning the agenda for the coming National Committee meeting. He mentioned

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that the manifesto (64 Party declaration) should be the last point on the agenda. STEIN then furnished the National Administrative Committee's recommendation on the agenda for the National Committee meeting:

1. Discuss Party situation.

He added that no reports would be given, however, resolutions would be adopted from proposals received after discussion. He said that the following 2 points would come under Party situation:

- A. 12 Party statement.
- B. Resignation of (JOHN) GATES.

2. Moving of National Center to Chicago, that is whether to move or not to move.

3. Leadership

4. Special order of business - report on economic situation.

5. Report on "The Worker".

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT proposed that the question of the agenda should be held in abeyance until the report from the Sub-Committee was completed (believed referring to report on LAWRENCE letter and CHARLIE LOMAN).

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that with regard to the discussion on the Party situation, this should be completed by the afternoon session and that there

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should be a vote by 6:00 p.m. (referring to afternoon session of National Committee meeting Saturday 2/15/56.)

DENNIS continued stating that at 6:00 p.m. they should begin the discussion on leadership and the move to Chicago. He said that Sunday they should discuss the economic report, elections and work on the mass organization. He said that this would be followed by an extensive discussion on Sunday afternoon with the preparation of a report on the situation within the Party.

Remarks of BEN DAVIS

DAVIS spoke and proposed that the first point on the agenda should be the discussion of the Party situation.

Unknown Male

~~X~~ An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, spoke and stated that GENE'S (DENNIS) proposal in relation to the question of time with regard to the agenda is not realistic.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY remarked that the Executive Committee has not made provision for BILL SCHNEIDERMAN'S report.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER commented that "We are told that Comrade BILL SCHNEIDERMAN was invited to New York." He added that he did not want to make a major point of this, but that he was unable to see his (SCHNEIDERMAN) priority since this day is the touch stone for the entire Party.

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Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that the NEC could not resolve the national economic situation until it resolves certain internal problems. He added that it was impossible to avoid (BILL) SCHNEIDERMAN'S letter, however, he said the thought it could be handled in a substantive way here.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented that he was in no mood to discuss anything but the Sub-committee report.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS - Chairman

MEYERS asked if there were any amendments to the agenda. He mentioned (CARL) WINTER proposed that the agenda be changed to have the economic question placed first and everything else to follow.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER stated that the internal situation must be resolved with regard to the situation in and out of the Party. He stated that the economic situation is affecting the thinking of the whole working class, adding that this has been his experience throughout districts with regard to their discussion of the labor policy statements.

Remarks of JACK STACHEL

STACHEL commented with regard to discussion of the first point (of agenda) he said that 2 reports were to be presented before the last National Administrative Committee (NAC) meeting. He said that he had an informal discussion with CARL WINTER the other evening and would recommend the

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postponing of things for a period of 3 to 6 months.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY spoke and proposed the following agenda:

1. Party situation.
2. Economic situation.
3. Chicago.
4. Leadership.
5. "The Worker".

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER commented that the essence of his proposal was to inquire as to what the left secretarian and revisionist is going to do on the economic situation. He added that he did not want to get out a (personal) proposal against them.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN commented that this agenda leaves no room for removal of those comrades (believed referring to CHARLIE LOMAN and others.)

Remarks of BEN DAVIS

DAVIS commented that he believed that the order of business can be arranged to give the effect of a new leadership. He said that it is to be on the basis of mass work - no purporting to smother the internal situation.

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Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, spoke and stated that some comrades do not want to get involved until the Party leadership is resolved. He said that some comrades are fighting for leadership alone. He expressed the opinion that the differences within the Party have to be resolved subsequent to a discussion of these differences, and not by re-arranging the Committee's (National Committee) agenda.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN recommended that they have a vote and not prolong the discussion.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS - Chairman

MEYERS stated that the proposal is that we have the report of HY (LUMER'S economic report) first and that this be the first point under discussion.

Informant reported that a vote was then taken on CARL WINTER'S motion for the agenda's amendment to place the economic situation as the first point on the agenda for the National Committee meeting. This amendment was carried 8 in favor with 7 opposed.

Remarks of FRED FINE

FINE stated that they should settle when the first point (economic situation) will terminate.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that this discussion should terminate by 4:00 p.m. and that a vote should be taken during the Saturday evening session.

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Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN commented that this was an impossibility.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT proposed that on the basis of what they have now he would recommend that GENE (DENNIS) and SID (STEIN) organize the remainder of the agenda.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN commented that he will object strenuously before the National Committee to the whole approach by the Committee (NEC) to this entire situation.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS - Chairman

MEYERS then referred to a motion made by EUGENE DENNIS that the National Committee itself should make proposals with regard to the remainder of the agenda.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY made the proposal that the NEC is required to explain why a decision of the last National Committee with regards to reports on the National Labor Conference, the National Negro Conference, and the labor policy statement which gave specific instructions, was not carried out by the NAC. She added that she will review her motion after the NEC has been given a sufficient explanation by the NAC.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT commented that the question on

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leadership should precede the question of the move to Chicago.

Informant reported that a general discussion then ensued on the question of invitees to the National Committee meeting, which resulted in a number of proposals being made, and as a result it was proposed that they (National Committee) have an Executive session.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN then inquired if this meant that everyone would be omitted.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS - Chairman

MEYERS then called this question for a vote. The motion was carried 8 in favor 6 opposed that the National Committee be in Executive session.

Remarks of CARL WINTER

WINTER stated that he did not vote on this question.

Remarks of JACK STACHEL

STACHEL commented that most comrades did not know what was going on, adding that he did not know.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS - Chairman

MEYERS asked for a motion to proceed, but an unidentified individual asked that there be a motion to reconsider.

Remarks of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

FLYNN stated that she would be willing to reconsider on (ARNOLD) JOHNSON, (WILLIAM L.) PATTERSON and (ALEXANDER) BITTLEMAN.

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SID STEIN interrupted FLYNN by suggesting that there be 8 more names. FLYNN commented that the original proposal was that there would be 3 (invitees) and added that she was not adverse to the extension of this list.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that they should take a vote on the consideration. This vote was carried 9 in favor and 5 opposed for reconsideration.

Remarks of SID STEIN

SID STEIN then read the following names, apparently individuals who were invited to the National Committee meeting:

[REDACTED]

ARNOLD JOHNSON

[REDACTED]
GEORGE MORRIS

BILL ALBERTSON

ALEXANDER BITTLEMAN

[REDACTED]

MORRIS CHILDS and
BILL LAWRENCE

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b7C

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

To move that we have a motion to elect a new editorial board for P.A. (Political Affairs).

Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, spoke and then referred to a letter written to (EUGENE) DENNIS from Comrade PAT (TOOHEY).

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Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT then asked the unidentified individual whether he was present when this letter was read.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that GENE (DENNIS) read it (the letter) at a NAC meeting and at the end of his reading discovered that it was from PAT (TOOHEY) and that it was to be confidential. STEIN continued, saying that GENE then asked the members of the NAC not to reveal its contents since it was a personal letter.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT recommended that MARTHA (STONE) get together with GENE (DENNIS) and BEN (DAVIS) to see what PAT (TOOHEY) said.

Remarks of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that Comrade (PAT) TOOHEY had discussed with her the fact that he had a meeting with GENE DENNIS. She said that she would invite the comrades of this Committee to go to her district (New Jersey) to see the situation.

Remarks of BOB THOMPSON

THOMPSON stated that the Sub-committee will meet on the second floor where there is a blackboard.

Informant reported that following the recess the meeting continued with the following comments by CARL WINTER:

WINTER gave a report on efforts of

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himself and CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT to revise a collective report for the National Committee. He stated this document is subject to two types of amendments. He commented that certain type amendments are valuable in that they oblige everyone to set down crystal clear where he parts company. There are certain kinds of amendments toward which we should display a welcoming attitude. WINTER suggested that the meeting adjourn for approximately 15 minutes in order for the members to read the document under discussion. Following the short adjournment, GEORGE MEYERS, Chairman called the meeting to order and commented that Comrade GENE (DENNIS) has the floor.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that SID (STEIN) had expressed an opinion and was prepared to state a resolution on the California document. CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT) and CARL (WINTER) prepared to accept this resolution as a basis (for discussion). They agreed to work on the document.

The first thing that struck me about their work is that we have an amalgamation of the California resolution, SID'S (STEIN) report and a couple of items from my report.

DENNIS added that their efforts were motivated by the highest interest in the Party, but "it will mean all things to all men" depending on your position. Adding as an example the questions on revisionism and the vanguard role.

I think in the struggle for unity which is of cardinal importance, the National Committee should take a clear position on a number of points, namely, the class struggle, the significance of the 16th National Convention and the issues of dogmatism and revisionism.

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There are a number of theoretical questions also that must be settled. We should reach an accurate view, something must be clearly upheld and in agreeing we will save the Party.

Informant reported that SID STEIN then interrupted DENNIS requesting that DENNIS point out the points of divergence.

Continuing, DENNIS mentioned the question on (JOHN) GATES and his symbol of the Party's trend toward Socialism. DENNIS commented that since the 16th National Convention the Party has been unsuccessful in carrying out these principles and the leadership is divided.

DENNIS was of the opinion that the National Committee should come to a concrete stand on 6 points, as set out in the 16th National Convention.

1. Insure the Party's participation in the important class struggles.
2. Make the best contribution in the present struggles and clarify our action in respect to the 16th National Convention.
3. Rebuild the CP.

He added that the convention set up features based on Marxism - Leninism. It set up issues of the Party's vanguard role. We must have a Party of action. We must prohibit all factions, adding "the Party is here to stay." He said "we" must not be confused with the United Socialist Party. We must be a vanguard working Party guided by Marxism-Leninism.

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4. Errors of the past were all left sectarianism. There is still a struggle against left sectarianism and right opportunism. We must refute the revisionists to build the Party. We must struggle against the factions that are against the Marxist-Leninist line of the Party.

5. Establish agreement on the above points. All should study the 64 Party Declaration, and those who reject it should be looked on as dogmatists.

6. Re-organize the National leadership to work as a team in order to carry out the 16th National Convention principles.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN spoke and referring to DENNIS' report said we "are punchy" with words. STEIN added that what he wants to see is a Party of 12,000 members who are able to discuss points with others and a Party to carry out what the National Convention intended. That is to discuss a way to Socialism. Eventually bring forth a United Party of Socialism..

He said that the majority of the National Committee were willing to take steps on the California document, adding that the difficulties can be overcome, not easily but it can be done. STEIN stated further that in his opinion a smaller Party would be isolated but at least it would be maintained for a time.

He said that "we" do not want a section of leadership who do not agree with the National Convention. STEIN stated that he has asked Comrade DENNIS for weeks what he has, to put it on paper and let us see it. STEIN stated that the greatest dis-service that can be done to the Party is to talk in nebulous terms. He said that people have lost

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confidence in us and some of them are thinking of leaving and joining something else. He added that they are not revisionists. He added that confidence in himself and DENNIS and so forth is not the same as confidence in the Party. He commented that what threatens the Party at the moment is Revisionism.

Remarks of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT

LIGHTFOOT stated that at the last National Committee meeting it was decided to appoint a Sub-committee. He added that the way the sub-committee was set up convinced him that some comrades want war not peace, adding that when they returned to their districts, the sub-committee was torpedoed. We were accused of being afraid. Yes comrades I am afraid for our Party. I am concerned about the thing we have devoted most our adult life to.

LIGHTFOOT commented that there does not appear to be a mature leadership and he rejected the inference made by GENE (DENNIS) and SID (STEIN). LIGHTFOOT said that to reverse the convention is not easy and that they need a new convention in order to do it. We have a constitution we are going to live by - it says any major policy decision must go to the membership. He stated that to say that the main danger is left sectarianism is a conclusion of the convention. We cannot say it is revisionism and we cannot change it without a convention. This document is not ambiguous, it states we have not overcome sectarianism to the extent that we can elevate revisionism to be the main danger.

Continuing, LIGHTFOOT commented that (JOHN) GATES is out of the Party, and so are many others. Let us worry about the present membership.

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We have almost absolute isolation from the masses. He said it was getting to a point where if anyone says anything he is a revisionist. In California they call SAM KUSHNER a revisionist. In Chicago they say he is "left".

Informant reported that an unidentified female interrupted LIGHTFOOT by stating that NY calls him (KUSHNER) revisionist.

Continuing, LIGHTFOOT stated that they should try to meet halfway.

Informant reported that LIGHTFOOT apparently directed his comments to GENE (DENNIS) and referred to DENNIS' marking of the document.

2 LIGHTFOOT said that he could not understand GENE'S objection. Continuing, LIGHTFOOT stated that if you comrades of the NEC cannot bend over a little to meet this problem you do not want unity and you do not want CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT.

He stated that history has a way of catching up with this leadership, adding that in "48 (1948) they caught up with us and it took them to "52" (1952) to find us. I do not consider the convention a bible. We will not exist if we toss overboard the only basis I see in the Party for unity.

Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, then asked a question on procedure. "Do we go into the content of the document now or should we vote on placing it before the National Committee."

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Unknown Male (Possibly MICKIE LIMA)

An individual believed to be LIMA stated that there is a danger of becoming lost in layers of words and discussions. There has been no talk here to show me that there should be a change made. The unity of our Party will be achieved on a basis of understanding and applying our theories to the American scene.

This document is an amalgamation of contrary viewpoints. I think the California document places the issues facing the Party more squarely on the line. It is positively clear in stating the problem. I do not believe in the co-existence of many trends and on the other hand you cannot say that one trend is all good and another is all bad. I was never a part of any (JOHN) GATES trend.

The convention I thought set up the predominant trend of the Party. Now there is a move to push the trend the other way. There is too much dogmatism in the Party today. We must realize there is no eternal law. The laws of Marxism-Leninism are not eternal. We have got to change when change is necessary. I have been trying to think this thing out in my own way. I have been labeled a "revisionist." I warmly endorsed the Hungarian Government. I have a high regard for internationalism and particularly the role of the Soviet Union.

Unidentified Male Believed to be GEORGE MEYERS

The fundamental problems facing us is that of applying the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism to the American scene and the failure to lead the Party in mass work. I find I cannot move

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the Party in my district in any mass way due to the kind of discussion going on in the Party.

Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, then stated that he is opposed to the idea that a danger exists in working with the Socialist groups. This individual stated that part of the right danger lies in a divided trade union movement, the question of the Negro People's Movement and a lack of grasping on to the opportunity.

This individual stated that he believed that the American capitalism has changed toward the labor unions and socialistic trends. He said that the word or phrase "dictatorship of the proletariat" is a phrase the average person in America cannot understand, but that "peaceful transition" is a better phrase and should be used. He said that to talk about the situation in the Soviet Union and Stalin is like walking on eggs. He said that following the convention word spread around that I was anti-semitic because of a certain resolution submitted at the convention. I labeled it all as reactionary, while deploring the situation in the Soviet Union around the killing of those Jewish people. This individual ended his talk by stating that he did not believe that this is a reason for leaving the American Communist Party.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY then asked how much longer they would continue and what they should accomplish at this meeting.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

DENNIS stated that both reports should be presented to the National Committee the following day.

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Informant reported that there was much discussion for and against CARL'S (WINTER) and CLAUDE'S (LIGHTFOOT) document. It was proposed that a vote be taken on both documents and the document receiving the most votes be reported to the National Committee.

Remarks of Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown to the informant, stated that he was against this procedure, as the document getting the most votes will be characterized as being the document sponsored by the NEC, which is not the case. This unknown male proposed that a vote be taken and the document receiving the least number of votes will be reported as a minority report.

Remarks of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] argued that a vote should be taken now, but wants points of both documents incorporated into the discussion so that what the majority of the NEC wants is actually the basis of discussion.

Remarks of DOROTHY HEALEY

HEALEY spoke and argued in favor of CLAUDE'S report but said that points of each which are in agreement to all members of the NEC should be presented to the Committee (National Committee). She added that she is not in agreement with all the points of CLAUDE'S report, but remarks that she considers it significant that CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT) and CARL (WINTER), two persons with different points of view are able to get together and put out a report. She said this should serve as an example to the meeting.

Unknown Male

An individual, whose identity was unknown

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to the informant, stated that the line of approach in one of the documents represents the majority in the NEC, while the line of approach in the second document represents the line of approach in the NAC. This individual stated that both documents will have to be presented. He recommended that the NEC vote on the documents and the results reported to the National Committee, in order that the National Committee will know the thinking of the NEC regarding these documents.

Remarks of GENE DENNIS

DENNIS proposed that a vote be taken as to whether both documents will be presented to the National Committee.

Informant reported that there was much discussion as to the procedure regarding these documents, and that SID STEIN stated that the trouble is that everyone present, no matter how sanctimonious, is fighting for his own position and these documents will only continue the struggle in a different way.

Remarks of Individual Believed to be JIM JACKSON

JACKSON stated that the discussion is dragging on hopelessly and that the committee cannot even agree on a simple question of procedure without a 3 to 4 hour discussion. He proposed that they adjourn for dinner. He also proposed that a vote from the floor on both documents be taken with the understanding that neither document be designated as the one in favor by the NEC or the position of the NEC.

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that he agrees with the document being a basis for discussion with minor changes.

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Remarks of GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY

CHARNEY suggested that they have a report of the Sub-committee in which the document approved by 2 members of the sub-committee, is presented as a basis for discussion. He added that you have a document of the third member of the sub-committee which is offered as a substitute and you have SID'S (STEIN) view with this document as a basis for discussion, with some amendments. He recommended that they present it in that manner. ~~X~~

Remarks of SID STEIN

STEIN stated that CARL (WINTER) will present the document as the work of the two comrades of the sub-committee (WINTER and LIGHTFOOT). GENE (DENNIS) will present his own document because he cannot go along with this one. I support the document although I have some amendments. ~~X~~

Informant reported that the chairman took a voice vote and there was no opposition to this motion of STEIN'S. ~~X~~

Informant reported that following this there was some general discussion and the meeting adjourned.

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DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-68)

3/14/58

SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

CP, USA MEMBERSHIP
IS-C

SAC
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
SEC. 8
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SEC. 10
SEC. 11
SEC. 12
SEC. 13
SEC. 14
SEC. 15
SEC. 16
SEC. 17
SEC. 18
SEC. 19
SEC. 20

On 3/6/58, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] of Newark and SA JOHN A. HAAG of NYO that while at CP, USA Headquarters in NYC on 2/27/58, he overheard from persons unrecalled that the CP at present has seven members in Colorado. He also heard that in Montana there are 37 CP members, of these, seven members are in Great Falls, seven are in Butte and the other 23 members are scattered throughout Montana in groups of one or two members each.

Informant also advised that he heard [redacted] of the NJ, CP state on 3/1/58, that the Maryland CP has 25 members.

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- 2 - Bureau (100-3-68)
- 1 - Baltimore (100-) (CP, USA Maryland District) (RM)
- 1 - Butte (100-) (CP, USA Montana District) (RM)
- 1 - Denver (100-) (CP, USA Colorado District) (RM)
- 2 - Newark (100-2974) } [redacted] (RM)

① - New York (100-80638) (19-1)

JAH:jmd
(9)

100-80638-1420

OFFICE MEMORANDUM • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-63)

DATE: 5/14/58

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-74560)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - FUNDS
IS - C

CARE MUST BE UTILIZED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, SINCE THE VERY NATURE OF THIS
INFORMATION TENDS TO DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF A HIGHLY
PLACED AND SENSITIVE INFORMANT.

2-Bureau (100-3063) (RM)
1-Butte (100-) (RM)
2-Chicago (100-) (RM)
(1-100-18001) (FRED FINE)
1-Detroit (RM)
1-Los Angeles (RM)
2-Minneapolis (RM)
(1-100-) (CARL ROSS)
1-Newark (RM)
1-Oklahoma City (RM)
2-Pittsburgh (RM)
(1-100-) (STEVE NELSON)
1-San Francisco (RM)
1-New York (100-13923) [REDACTED] (#19-1)
1-New York (100-128861) (CP, USA - FUNDS) (Reserve Fund) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-128314) (NY STATE CP FUNDS) (#19-2)
1-New York (100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-80638) (CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-9365) (WILLIAM Z. FOSHER) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-89816) (FRED FINE) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-50090) (SID STEIN) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-19679) (ISADORE WOFSEY) (#19-1)
1-New York (97-169) (Publisher's New Press) (#7-2)
1-New York (100-467) (BILL LAWRENCE) (#19-2)
1-New York (100-4931) (CP, USA) (#19-1)
1-New York (100-84275) (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) (#12-15)
1-New York (100-16021) (ARNOLD JOHNSON)
1-New York (100-68063) [REDACTED] (#12-14)
1-New York (100-70281) [REDACTED]
1-New York (100-67830) [REDACTED]
1-New York (100-8033) [REDACTED] (#12-14)
1-New York (100-100351) [REDACTED] (#19-1)
1-New York (100-68934) [REDACTED] #20-11
1-New York (100-67234) [REDACTED] (#12-16)
1-New York (100-74560)

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HCO:reg
(37)

KYP

100-80638-1451

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 13 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

#6-19

NY 100-74560

On 2/27/58, NY 2179-S* advised that on above date [] and ROBERT THOMPSON had a conference at the latter's office, CP headquarters, 23 West 26th St., NYC. According to the informant, the discussion pertained to a run-down on Party finances and expenses. The informant advised that certain points of discussion were not available as both THOMPSON and [] took the added security precaution of using the blackboard; however, the general tenor of the discussion was as follows:

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[] commented that "This is all we can clear up" (figures written on blackboard). He stated there is the additional problem of (EUGENE) DENNIS who gets \$30 (per week) for cabs and BILL FOSTER has been getting \$75 a week. He said "we" pay the rent for the Chicago office amounting to \$60 (per month?)

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Continuing, [] informed THOMPSON that there is "actually three cars" (believe [] referring to 3 Party cars). He explained that FRED (FINE) has (a car), a 1951 (model) which is not worth much, someone offered \$80 for it. He stated that this can be worked out with him (FINE) and indicated that FINE was coming to New York City to settle up his affairs.

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Continuing, [] stated the two cars, SID's (STEIN) car is in the Chicago office and there is BILL's (FOSTER) car. He said the amount comes to this much roughly (puts figure on blackboard). [] also stated that there is a total of miscellaneous expenses in this amount (puts figure on blackboard).

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Continuing, the informant reported that ARON stated that "we" (National Office) lease the building (CP Headquarters) for this amount (figures on blackboard). He commented that there was additional money spent on painting and repairs of

NY 100-74560

the building saying that a plumbing bill of over \$100 is still unpaid. He indicated that \$1000 was added to the expense of the building which is only a minimum figure.

[] then mentioned that the expenses for the National Committee meetings which occur four times a year comes to this amount (written on blackboard). It is noted that this informant reported previously that the last National Committee meeting cost \$1996.

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Continuing, [] stated that another item is "Blue Cross" which he described as extremely valuable and amounts to this monthly (figure on blackboard). [] then referred to additional items not described as coming to \$500 a month and added that if you bring two people in from California, it will cost \$500. He said that "our budget" last year came to this amount (on blackboard). He explained that this figure did not include administrative expenses such as paper, postage, telegrams, telephones, or contributions toward political work. He remarked that he just wanted to give (THOMPSON) a bird's-eye view and apparently continued to write on the blackboard.

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THOMPSON asked if it is all channeled through one person to which [] replied all channeled through . . . he gives it to us (no name mentioned), all contributions he gets he turns over to us. (It is believed that [] is referring to ISADORE WOFSEY)

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[] stated that "The Worker" has been a constant problem day in and day out and "you live from one day to the next" and no matter how much (money) the Party gets, it goes. He said that no one made a bigger fight against the giving out of money than did BILL LAWRENCE, but it did no good. He stated that this (amount) is dues (collected) last year (figure on blackboard). He said this figure also represented convention dues payments.

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NY 100-74560

The informant reported that [] apparently continues to write on the blackboard and stated that "The Worker" is going to need (figure on blackboard) to operate. He commented that it is going to be hard to get money as people are in a bad frame of mind. They want to see the Party do something, adding that the Party "now" is in deficit financing.

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[] asked THOMPSON if he had any questions so far, and he then continued talking stating that he believed the Party could maintain the staff and indicated that he [] should get off the payroll. Concerning the staff payroll, [] stated that PAT (W. L. PATTERSON) is now on "The Worker" (payroll). [] indicated that he would recommend that one person be named to be in charge of fund raising with a committee working under this person.

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Continuing, [] stated that the question "of subsidy" has to be solved. He remarked that CARL ROSS is looking for a job, STEVE (NELSON) is either looking for work or presently has a job, and that ARNOLD JOHNSON will be on the staff (payroll).

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[] commented that in his opinion, they should set up a committee which would function outside the Party as well as in the Party (informant believed [] is speaking of a fund raising committee). He indicated that he has talked to some people about such a committee, but he was unsuccessful in getting anyone to accept the chairmanship. He commented that [] (possibly [] had told him that people are completely callous and the response (for money) is disheartening.

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[] also advised THOMPSON that he had made another proposal (to set up) a legal committee in order to pay off attorney's fees which he characterized as being a major problem. He stated that the districts still owe for the

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NY 100-75460

last National Committee meeting saying that \$5000 should be coming in from the districts. He indicated that the only districts that have paid the National Office are Oklahoma, Montana, Michigan, and Los Angeles, (southern California district). He stated that the bigger districts like eastern Pennsylvania, northern California, New Jersey, New York, and Illinois owe us (National Office) quite large sums of money and "I" have a list of all the money they owe us.

Continuing, informant reported that [] then discussed proposals that he apparently made:

1. Have a financial secretary responsible for receiving and disbursements of funds.
2. Get rid of the Chicago Office unless (we) get agreement to move there.
3. Give additional thought to cutting the staff.

[] then discussed the cost of maintaining BILL FOSTER saying it costs this much per week (figure on blackboard.)

He commented that in his opinion, he did not believe the car (FOSTER'S personal car) should be garaged for this much money (on blackboard) and added that ten percent of budget is going to FOSTER's income.

Continuing, [] stated that BOB would have to go over this himself as there is also a question of miscellaneous expenses "like those cabs for GENE (DENNIS)". He commented \$30 a week for (cabs) almost \$2000 a year. [] stated that in addition "we" have office (cleaning) help amounting to \$70

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NY 100-75460

a week and mentioned [redacted], who also does the mimeographing and cleaning work as well as [redacted] who he indicated works two days a week and is paid \$24 a week.

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[redacted] stated that a drive (fund drive) might be successful but that "Affairs" are valuable politically, but in many cases you lose money on affairs. (It is the informant's opinion that [redacted] speaking of "affairs" is referring to the large gatherings of the type that are held in Madison Square Garden.)

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Continuing, informant reported that [redacted] also spoke on the question of membership, commenting that there is no real membership set up. He said that the districts have no membership set up and there is no membership apparatus under the present set up.

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THOMPSON then asked "How much in the way of records?", "How much does [redacted] take care of?" [redacted] replied that she [redacted] can take care of most of it although she is very busy. He said that with the help of [redacted] could work out a system to handle the books.

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[redacted] advised THOMPSON that they should work out an arrangement in the collection of dues during the National Committee and the National Executive Committee meetings. He said that they should set an hour aside at these meetings in order to collect dues.

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Informant reported that at the close of the discussion, [redacted] spoke about himself commenting that he did not have a coat, a hat, money, or a job. He said that he might seek employment as a painter or a proofreader.

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (100-33740)
SUBJECT: CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP
IS - C

DATE: 3/14/58

[redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, on 2/20/58 made available to SA [redacted] a three page document which contained two letters.

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The first letter, dated "February 1, 1958", addressed "Dear Friend", advises of "new developments in the case of five CP members unconstitutionally suspended in Los Angeles....." This letter is signed, "C.H./J.H./B.D./B.D./W.P.". The letter states that further information regarding this matter may be obtained from [redacted] Calif."

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The three page document contains a second letter, dated "January 24, 1958", addressed "To the District Council, So. Calif. District, Communist Party, USA". This second letter is signed by "C.H./J.H./B.D./B.D./W.P.".

One photostat of this document is being sent to New York, one to Los Angeles, and the original is being retained in Chicago File 100-33740-1A(10).

- 9 - Los Angeles (Enclosure - 1) (RM)
1 - 100- (CP, USA - Factionalism)
1 - 100- [redacted]
1 - 100- ("C.H.")
1 - 100- ("J.H.")
1 - 100- ("B.D.")
1 - 100- ("B.D.")
1 - 100- ("W.P.")

- ① - New York (100-80638) (CP, USA - Membership) (Encl.-1) (RM)

JJC:BJK
(12)

100-80638-1433

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 17 1958	
NEW YORK	

Waters

19-1

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603-C320) (#12-10) DATE: 3/17/58

FROM : SA [REDACTED] #7

SUBJECT: CP, USA
KINGSBRIDGE
IS-C

SAC
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
SEC. 8
SEC. 9
SEC. 10
SEC. 11
SEC. 12
SEC. 13
SEC. 14
SEC. 15
SEC. 16
SEC. 17
SEC. 18
SEC. 19 - 1
SEC. 20

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Identity of Source

[REDACTED] who has furnished
reliable info in past
(conceal)

Date of Activity

2/4/58

Date Received

2/21/58

Received by

SA [REDACTED] #7

Original Located

[REDACTED]

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting
the following information in order to protect the identity
of the informant.

By report dated 2/9/58, [REDACTED] furnished
information concerning a meeting of subject club held
2/4/58.

A copy of informant's report follows:

[REDACTED]

1 - NY 100-101862 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-133682 [REDACTED] 2-10)
1 - NY 100- [REDACTED] (POLA LNU) (#12-10)
1 - NY 100- [REDACTED] (PAULINE LNU) (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-82384 [REDACTED] 0)
1 - NY 100-68642 [REDACTED] 12-10)
1 - NY 100-36068 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-120276 [REDACTED] 12-10)
1 - NY 100-133178 [REDACTED] (#12-10)
1 - NY 100-26603-C40 (CP, BRONX) (#12-10)
1 - NY 97-159 (WORKER) (#7-2)
1 - NY 100-80638 (CP, MEMBERSHIP) (#19-1)
1 - NY 100-1696 (EG. FLYNN) (#19-1)
1 - NY 100-7629 (NAACP) (#7-2)
1 - NY 100-133090 (COM. FOR SANE NUCLEAR POLICY) (#7-2)
1 - NY 100-97167 (POLITICAL AFFAIRS) (#7-2)
1 - NY 100-87211 (CP, FACTIONALISM) (#19-1)
1 - NY 100-26603-C320 (#12-10)

JPH:MIM

(19) *Wm*

100-80638-1423

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAR 18 1958
FBI - NEW YORK
[Signature]

NY 100-26603-C320

Report Communist Party U.S.A.
 Activities

Feb. 9, 1958
New York

A meeting of the Kingsbridge area of the north-west section C.P. was held on Feb. 4th, 1958 at [] apart., at [] Ave., Bronx, N.Y.

The following members were present at this meeting.

[] who
chaired the meeting.

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[] said that he will make a short report on decisions made by the north-west section committee C.P. on activities of the clubs and areas in the section. The report will be in the form of points and the meeting can decide on each point during the report, with or without discussions, as he goes on with his report. Suggestion was approved.

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[] reported:

1. The Section Committee decided that the entire membership in this section should participate in the sub drive of the Worker. Each club or area should establish a press committee for this purpose.

This meeting decided to "actively" participate in the sub drive of The Worker. It was decided to postpone the setting up of a press committee until next meeting, in the "hope" that there will be a larger attendance.

2. The Bronx County Committee advanced \$2,000 to The Worker. It was a loan made by the committee. This section is responsible for \$800. This money must be raised within the next few weeks.

Meeting decided to raise funds.

NY 100-26603-C320

3. The registration in the Bronx County isn't going well. It runs a little over $\frac{1}{4}$ of the 1956 registration. "I believe that this area has about the same proportion."

Meeting decided:

- a) To have a special concentration on registration.
- b) Registration Committee of Kingsbridge area should have a special meeting at which steps should be taken to have a week of special concentration on registration
- c) During the concentration week each member in the area should be involved in the registration campaign; including the visiting of former CP. members.

4. The Section Committee is urging the membership to participate in the reception for Elizabeth Flynn which will be held on Feb. 22nd, 1958 at the Allerton Community Center. Admission is \$1.00.

Meeting decided to take 10 tickets to sell to members. Lee and Dorothy are to be in charge of the sale of these tickets.

5. Bronx County Committee is anxious that party (C.P.) in the different sections of the Bronx should attend the dinner of the Bronx Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. which will be held at the Embassy Ballroom on Feb. 11th, 1958.

No one at the meeting expressed a desire to go to this dinner. [redacted] will notify absent (from this meeting) members about this dinner.

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6. The northwest section committee proposes the setting up of neighborhood committees in the section connected with the Bronx Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy. The section committee claims that it will be easy to set up such committees in the mass organizations, especially in the P.T. groups. The section committee is urging every party (C.P.) member to attend the meeting of the Bronx Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy on Feb. 14th at the Methodist Church on Fordham Rd. E. of Grand Concourse.

It was decided that some members of the Kingsbridge area will attend the Feb. 14th meeting. To approve in principle the idea of setting up such committees but to find out more about the principals of the committee for a sane nuclear policy to be able to present the idea of it to different people in the P.T. and other mass organizations.

Lee led a discussion on the declaration of the 12 communist parties.

She read parts of the "declaration" from the December (1957) issue of Political Affairs which she quoted: "The communist parties regard the struggle for peace as their foremost task. They will do all in their power to prevent war."

She underlined the point that "the experience of the Soviet Union (during the Socialist revolution and the building of Socialism) has fully borne out the correctness of Marxism-Leninism." She stated that "the building of Socialism is governed by a number of basic laws: guidance of the working class, the core of which is the Marxist-Leninist party in effecting a proletarian revolution in one form or another and establishing one form or other the dictatorship of the proletariat; defense of the achievements of Socialism against attacks by external and internal enemies, etc., etc."

NY 100-26603-C320

She said: "Marxism-Leninism calls for a creative application of the general principals of the Socialist revolution. Some of our party leaders in and outside the National Committee a revisionist interpretation on such questions as 'creative application' or 'one form or another of the dictatorship of the proletariat.' The Moscow declaration declares that 'the main danger at present is revisionism or, in other words, Right-wing opportunism...' one of the party's national leaders tries to develop the point of view that 'Socialist democracy in the United States will preserve full civil liberties for all americans including even those who oppose Socialism.' This is a revisionist illussion. The Moscow declaration underlines that 'the conquest of power by the proletariat is only the beginning of the revolution, not its conclusion...a fairly long time is needed to resolve the issue of who will win - capitalism or socialism.'"

She also stated that "there is a big debate within the party on the question of achieving Socialism in this country by peaceful means. I agree that such an achievement would be desirable. But we can not base our entire theory and action on an assumption. On a maybe. The Moscow declaration warns us: "Leninism teaches, and experience confirms that the ruling classes never relinquish power voluntarily...' The question now is: Should we adopt the point of view of the Right-wingers in our party which, according to my mind, is based on illusions or should we adopt the Marxist-Leninist conception of achieving Socialism based on the experiences of the communist parties in the countries where Socialism is a reality? Those of us who want Socialism must line up with the Moscow declaration. We don't want to turn our party into a debating society. We want to build a party which will lead the american working class for the achievement of our ultimate goal-Socialism."

NY 100-26603-C320

[redacted] said that she believes that "Socialism in the United States can be achieved by constitutional means. I have confidence in the american people, in the american working class who have a historic tradition of struggle for economic security and political freedom. "She asked the meeting to be allowed to talk" a little longer on this subject.

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Because of the late our it was decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting which will be held on Feb. 18th, 1958 at [redacted] apart., at [redacted] [redacted], Bronx, N.Y.

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J. Morris

SAC, NEW YORK (100-47142) (7-2)

3/17/58

SA [REDACTED] (19)

MAY DAY ACTIVITIES
IS-C

On 3/25/58, NY 2179-S* furnished the following information:

UTMOST CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN THE REPORTING OF OR ANY OTHER USE OF INFORMATION FURNISHED BY NY 2179-S* SINCE THE VERY NATURE OF THE INFORMATION TENDS TO DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF THIS HIGHLY PLACED AND SENSITIVE INFORMANT.

The Informant advised that on 2/25/58, WILLIAM WEINSTONE, BEN DAVIS, and a man whose identity was not known to the informant, held a discussion in the Second Floor Board Room at CP Headquarters, NYC. The discussion had to do with preparations for May Day. Mention was made of several different places that could be considered as likely locations for holding the May Day Rally.

- 1 - NY (100-9595) (WILLIAM WEINSTONE) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-23825) (BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR.) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-20638) (CPUSA - Membership) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-128317) (CPUSA - NY District - Membership) (19-2)
- 1 - NY (100-79717) (CPUSA - Political Activities) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-128312) (CPUSA - NY District - Political Activities) (19-2)
- ~~1 - NY (97-159) (Publishers News Press) (7-2)~~
- 1 - NY (100-47142) (7-2)

DEG:kac
(8)

100-80638-1424

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 19 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

MEMO
NY 100-47142

WEINSTONE spoke of stimulating local activities and local affairs. He expressed the opinion that there are certain types of activities required "at the bottom" such as strikes, demonstrations, and direct participation in all phases of various activities. He suggested that the May Day Rally meeting could be used for furthering Party registrations.

On 3/7/58, the informant advised that on that date, BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR. had a discussion with an individual, whose identity was not known to the informant, which was held in the Second Floor Board Room at CP Headquarters, NYC. DAVIS remarked that proposals would be made to the New York State Board at the next meeting, that a decision be arrived at as to what kind of a May Day affair the Party will have. DAVIS explained that it was not desirable to repeat last years ~~snatch~~ wherein a couple of comrades who resolved the details did not really consult the Party at all before making their decisions.

DAVIS said that it would be proposed that May Day be largely a united front celebration. He stated that Carnegie Hall had already been engaged for this purpose for May 5th (PH. possibly May 1st).

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603-C 40) DATE: 3/17/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED] (7)

SUBJECT: CP USA
BRONX COUNTY
IS - Cb6
b7C

Identity of Source [REDACTED] who has furnished
reliable info in past (conceal)

Description of info 2/12/58

Date Received 2/24/58

Received by SA [REDACTED] (7)

Original Located [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1 - NY 100-55159 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-4137 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-133178 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-128796 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-69941 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-13447 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 105-18272 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-89179 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-83378 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-120473 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-106964 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-133346 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-25821 [REDACTED] (12-10)

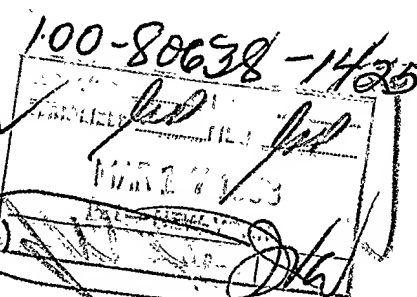
1 - NY 100-111936 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-132945 [REDACTED] (12-10)

1 - NY 100-133788 [REDACTED] (12-10)

COPIES CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

1 - NY 100-26603-C 40) (12-10)

JPH:mtt
(29)b6
b7C

Pls make 1 photostat for 100-133903 (19-2) 19.2

NY 100-26603-C 40

Utmost care must be used in handling and reporting the following information in order to protect the identity of the informant.

By report dated 2/19/58, [redacted] furnished info concerning a Bronx Co. CP membership meeting held 2/12/58.

A copy of the informant's report is attached herewith.

COPIES CONTINUED

1 - NY 100-62281 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-12481 [redacted] (19-2)
1 - NY 100-87211 (CP Factionalism) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-102697 (COMINFIL into Mass Organizations) (7-2)
1 - NY 105-6844 (B'nai Brith) (6)
1 - NY 100-95583 (CP Line) (19-1)
1 - NY 97-169 (Worker) (7-2)
1 - NY 100-17923 (JOHN GATES) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-80638 (CP Membership) (19-1)
1 - NY 100-107444 [redacted] (12-10)
1 - NY 100-26603 (CP USA - NY Division) (19-2)

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COPY

Report

Communist Party U.S.A.
Activities

Feb. 19, 1958
New York

A Bronx County Communist Party membership meeting was held on February 12th, 1958 at the New Terrace Gardens in the Bronx, N.Y.

About 60 people were present at this meeting.

I saw at the meeting [redacted]

[redacted] (member of the Bronx County Comm. C.P.)

and her husband, [redacted] (from the Allerton Section C.P.), [redacted] (member B.C.C.C.P.), [redacted] - maiden name), [redacted] and [redacted]

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[redacted] (member B.C.C.C.P.) chaired the meeting.

The main speaker was [redacted] In his speech [redacted] discussed mainly 2 points. One pointed was that "the membership demands to stop the discussion of the ideological differences within the Party and start doing something." Point two - "Communist party work in the right-wing mass organizations."

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On the question of "ideological differences" [redacted] spoke at length. He said that everyone in the party agrees that it would be "just fine" to stop these "endless discussions and get set to do some real work. But here is where the trouble comes in. To start to do some real work we need a program and when the question of a program comes up all ideological differences begin projecting themselves. And this, i belive, is the reason why one year after our national convention we still haven got a working program." He agreed that the "prolongation of this state of affairs in the party has a murderous effect on the activities of our members but, it seemg to me, that

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nothing can be done until we will some how hammer out these differences. Don't ask me when and how but I know, I am sure that as a Marxist-Leninist party we will find our way and will come out stronger than ever; history is with us and history assigned to us the task of leading our people into socialism."

He spoke about the mistakes we made "by isolating ourselves from the masses of the people." He underlined that the C.P.'s task is to lead the people "but if we isolate ourselves from the people we have no one to lead." Here he spoke on the importance of working in the "peoples mass organizations." He brought out the point that "a communist in a right-wing mass organization must work as a communist. I don't mean to say that one has to get the floor and tell the people - 'I am a communist!'" What I mean is that a communist in a right-wing mass organization should project left-wing ideas and push the organization to the left." He said that the communists don't have to "take over the organization but they must not become subservant to the ideology of this organization. If you work in the Bnai Brith and you just perform the functions of a Bnai Brith member your function there as a Communist becomes useless. On the other end if you work in the Bnai Brith frame work as a Communist projecting left wing ideas you have a right to consider that you do a good job for the Bnai Brith and you do your duty to the party."

He spoke about organizing in the neighborhood's peace committees; about joining up such committees if they are existing. to "project the ideas of peace, co-existence and atoms for peacefull purposes in such organizations as P.T. and especially among the working class population in the neighborhoods."

Howard (Allerton section) proposed the issuing of leaflets on peace and co-existence in the name of the Bronx County C.P. This proposal was approved by the meeting. [redacted] accused the right-wingers in the party (C.P.) for "all our troubles. I want you to

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know that the Daily Worker had to close up because tricks of such people as John Gates."

A worker from the East Bronx (no names of the speakers were announced) said that he works in tenement organizations for "quite a few years" and he "fully agrees with [redacted] that when you work in a mass organization you got to work as a communist. Otherwise what is the use to waist your time?"

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[redacted] disagreed with [redacted] she claimed that "no one has a right to come into an organization which is doing important work in the community and pull this organization here and there against the will of the members. This kind of work only serves a disruptive purpose."

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[redacted] called for an educational campaign among party members on "all levels." He said: "To be an effective Communist one must have a good knowledge of Marxism-Leninism." He blamed the lack of knowledge of Marxism-Leninism for the present ideological differences.

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Ida agreed with [redacted] on Communist work in right-wing mass organization. He also made a "short report" on the registration in the Bronx: "All I can report is that up till today we registered 200 members. In 1956 we registered over 1,000. What are we going to do about the registration?"

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[redacted] reported that the Bronx County (C.P.) pledged to the state (Comm. C.P.) a minimum of 700 subs in the sub campaign for the worker. He also told the meeting that "we must continue to raise funds for our paper. The County allready turned over to the Worker \$4,000 but most of this money we owe - we didn't raised it; we borrowed it." He also reported that a "Permanent Press Committee is now being organized. [redacted] and Patterson (Wm) submitted to the state (Comm. C.P.) a program of activities in connection with the press. I think we will have a good working press Committee."

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A suggestion from the floor in the form of a resolution was adopted by the meeting instructing the County Committee to establish "work shops for party members who are engaged in mass work." Meetings of these "work shops" should be held once a month for the purpose of exchanging experiences on work in mass organizations.

The meeting came to an end after the chairlady announced the Elizabeth Flynn reception which will be held on February 22nd. She asked everyone present here to come to this reception.

J. MORRIS

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 12-02-2011

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, CHICAGO (100-33728)

DATE: 3/18/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA -
Factionalism
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CLASSIFICATION BY 6076 on 9-11-78
EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 2
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN REPORTING THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT.

- 1 - DETROIT (REGISTERED MAIL)
(100-13420 CARL WINTER)
- 1 - MINNEAPOLIS (REGISTERED MAIL)
(100- CARL ROSS)
- 10 - NEW YORK (REGISTERED MAIL)
 - (1 - 100- EUGENE DENNIS)
 - (1 - 100- SID STEIN)
 - (1 - 100- JOHN GATES)
 - (1 - 100- JACOB STACHEL)
 - (1 - 100- BENJAMIN DAVIS)
 - (1 - 100- ROBERT THOMPSON)
 - (1 - 100- LOUIS WEINSTOCK)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - FACTIONALISM)
 - (1 - 100- CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP)
- 1 - PHILADELPHIA (REGISTERED MAIL)
(100-2427 DAVE DAVIS)
- 1 - SAN FRANCISCO (REGISTERED MAIL)
(100- MICKEY LIMA)
- 12 - CHICAGO
 - (61-867 CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
 - (1 - 100-18001 FRED FINE)
 - (1 - 100-3313 JACK KLING)
 - (1 - 100-3470 MORRIS CHILDS)
 - (1 - 100-2749 [REDACTED])
 - (1 - 100-2748 SAM KUSHNER)
 - (1 - 100-2515 [REDACTED])
 - (1 - 100-12890 EARL DURHAM)
 - (1 - 100-18952 CP OF ILLINOIS - MEMBERSHIP)
 - (1 - 100-33741 CP, USA - ORGANIZATION)
 - (1 - 100-18963 CP OF ILLINOIS - FACTIONALISM)

DET:whh
(26)

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SAC
DIV. 1
DIV. 2
DIV. 3
DIV. 4
SEC. 1
SEC. 2
SEC. 3
SEC. 4
SEC. 5
SEC. 6
SEC. 7
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SEC. 20

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FBI - CHICAGO	

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100-80638-1426

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 25 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

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CG 6202-S* on February 24, 1958, made available information which reflected that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, Chairman, CP of Illinois, and JACK KLING, member CP of Illinois, State Committee, were present at CP Headquarters, 36 West Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, on February 24, 1958, at which time these two individuals engaged in a discussion. The comments of LIGHTFOOT and KLING during the course of this discussion were as follows:

JACK KLING commented that MORRIS CHILDS had given him an explanation about the National Committee meeting. (National Committee meeting held New York, February 15 and 16, 1958.)

LIGHTFOOT stated that the way things are many on the Right may become detached from the Party. He said the Left has been violating every concept of Party organization. He noted that registration is not going up to what was expected last July. He stated that the Party stands now to end up with 7,000 rather than 10,000. He said he thinks actually 5,000 is a more realistic figure.

LIGHTFOOT then noted that he desired to discuss with KLING the point he has made several times and that is the shape of the Party after ten years of Left sectarian policy. LIGHTFOOT stated that this policy was instrumental in busting some unions like the painters. He noted that in the second place this policy in 1950 was instrumental in the Party losing half of its membership. He said that thirdly, this policy over emphasized the Fascist danger and resulted in the Party going underground. He asked, "Who is responsible?" LIGHTFOOT commented that as close as he is to the leadership and as close as KLING has been to the leadership neither of them could say right now that certain comrades were opposed or that here is a group of comrades responsible for these policies. He said that in the main the only way responsibility can be pinned (down) is to put it on the National Committee and the National Board. He said he feels comrades have adopted Left positions in the National Committee and now they have a leadership to carry out their policies. He said this group, however,

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is going to have to assume responsibility. He noted that it would be a "bold one" who would raise his voice to question anything in the Party (now).

JACK KLING then commented that while he was in New York he had an opportunity to talk to GENE DENNIS and in this discussion he, KLING, took a moderate position and stated he would reserve a decision on the Party until he had had a chance to read the final report. KLING stated that he was of the feeling that the Right may sit back and point at every mistake by the leadership. He noted that SID STEIN would probably do this and that in that kind of atmosphere the work would be effected. KLING commented that he would like to see LIGHTFOOT and even FRED FINE in the National Office but he would be opposed to FRED as National Labor Secretary. He said he thinks the National Committee needs the constant pressures of people who have certain independent, critical and opposing points of view.

LIGHTFOOT said that he would agree with this and he pointed out that he has worked in a minority in this district and that it is far different than being in a minority in New York. He said that even though he has differences with people like KLING, MOLLIE WEST, SAM KUSHNER and MORRIS CHILDS he still has their confidence. LIGHTFOOT commented that JACK KLING has not been in the National leadership for the last two years and he said there are things that affect one. He said that SID STEIN was a very amiable fellow and a very positive constructive force up until the National Convention. He said that SID (STEIN) has gotten so vindictive that he even threw some daggers at CLAUDE over what CLAUDE tried to do on his and CARL WINTER's resolution. He commented that SID STEIN became very vindictive toward GENE DENNIS, which colored STEIN's report and which "beclouded" the merits of the issue. LIGHTFOOT stated that STEIN raised this because he became convinced GENE DENNIS was dealing cards under the table. LIGHTFOOT then pointed out that he and FRED FINE have been called enemy agents and that SID STEIN had gotten the same kind of treatment. He noted that JOHN GATES had also received this treatment by way of letters and cartoons accusing GATES of being an agent provocateur.

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LIGHTFOOT at this point noted that at the last meeting of the Illinois State Board he had lost his temper with ELMER (JOHNSON) and he thought he would punch JOHNSON right in the G . D . nose but he didn't. KLING interrupted to state JOHNSON must have attacked CLAUDE pretty hard to arouse this feeling. LIGHTFOOT stated that he just read ELMER's history. He noted that ELMER talked about struggle, struggle, struggle, but ELMER has always been safe. LIGHTFOOT said that JOHNSON has never been on the firing lines of struggle, and when some people have been on those lines ELMER talks about capitulation to the bourgeoisie. LIGHTFOOT said that this sort of thing makes you madder and madder and you become dejected and you lose your sense of balance. Therefore, LIGHTFOOT said he wants no part of this.

JACK KLING then commented that he had spoken to GENE DENNIS prior to the time the December issue of "Political Affairs" came out and that he saw the copy for his article and he had expressed the greatest concern over it to GENE. KLING said he approved any desire expressed for a Leninist discussion but not when it was being set up in such an atmosphere as was being created. KLING noted that he approved of comrades raising questions with regard to the way the 12 Party Declaration was handled.

LIGHTFOOT interrupted to point out that in the past there have been associations with such international documents with disastrous results. He said at least "they" should have taken time to study the problem involved.

KLING then stated that it seemed wrong to him for LIGHTFOOT and others like him to withdraw pressure from the National Executive Committee. LIGHTFOOT declared that what caused the ouster of FRED FINE and SID STEIN more than anything else was their reaction to the 12 Party Declaration. LIGHTFOOT then said that if one disagrees with the ruthless group in New York he is just destroyed. KLING then objected that nobody knows what will happen if people like CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT go along with a majority decision but balk on something they didn't like. KLING insisted that he would

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make a strong appeal to get LIGHTFOOT back on the National Executive Committee. LIGHTFOOT then asked KLING not to do this and he added that he is not leaving the Party and he is not leaving the responsibility of his present office and he is not leaving the National Committee. He said he thinks, however, he could do more effective work here (in Illinois). LIGHTFOOT then reviewed for KLING the details of JACK STACHEL's asking for a Political Action Organization before SID STEIN and the approach to LIGHTFOOT by STACHEL who urged a third group to work against the extreme Left and Right and the subsequent desertion by STACHEL on this question. LIGHTFOOT also related to KLING what happened in relation to the committee in New York which brought in the slate for the new NEC. LIGHTFOOT said that a committee of five went out and in thirty minutes it returned with a list of fifteen names. LIGHTFOOT said that KLING would recall how long in the past they spent on setting up a leadership. He noted that this committee did not even bring in twenty names from which fifteen were recommended. He said these fifteen were in the main brought in by GENE DENNIS. LIGHTFOOT then commented that GENE DENNIS, BENJAMIN DAVIS and BOB THOMPSON worked on that list for weeks. He said then the rubber stamp was put on it by the committee of five and the list was brought into the National Committee. LIGHTFOOT stated that in the Party now there is a situation in which one or two people can more or less determine who is to be in leadership. He said that KLING would recall how in the Young Communist League CLAUDE, KLING and a couple of others could always determine who was going to be elected. He said the same thing is true in the Party today.

LIGHTFOOT continued his remarks by noting that a lot of people could not get into the leadership because they did not come through the "channels". He stated that there was no freedom to choose, the freedom is available, but it is not used. LIGHTFOOT then noted that the NEC meeting had almost concluded when an individual got up and proposed a vote to reject the Revisionist document of CARL (WINTER) and LIGHTFOOT. He said then "whats his name" got up and said he was going to introduce a resolution on Hungary and LOUIS (WEINSTOCK). LIGHTFOOT said "they" sensed victory right then

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CG 100-33728

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and there. LIGHTFOOT then commented that Left sectarianism is his fear, but that he feels that the Party can also work to fight against Right opportunism. He stated that the principle of this dispute has not been whether Left sectarianism or Revisionism have grown since the 16th National Convention, but the principle involved is, whether people in the Party are ready to fight both. LIGHTFOOT then summarized the sequence of events which had brought CARL (WINTER) and himself to write a resolution for the National Committee. He summarized these events as follows:

DENNIS' report to the NEC; SID STEIN's report to the NEC; MICKEY LIMA's motion to accept reports as informational; LIGHTFOOT's motion to name subcommittee of DENNIS, WINTER, STEIN and himself to bring in a report to the next meeting of the NEC; JACK STACHEL applauds; in NEC meeting just held STACHEL had switched back to Leftist position; WINTER and LIGHTFOOT bring in subcommittee report; DENNIS brings in his own report.

At this point of the discussion SAM KUSHNER and JIM WEST joined KLING and LIGHTFOOT and KUSHNER commented that he agreed with LIGHTFOOT's estimate of STACHEL's return to the Left and called it a disgusting spectacle. KLING then stated that he wondered who were some of those nominated for the NEC who are not on it now. LIGHTFOOT and KUSHNER named CARL WINTER, CARL ROSS, DAVE DAVIS, LIGHTFOOT and SAM KUSHNER.

JACK KLING commented that he wondered about KUSHNER's agreement to nominate himself at the subcommittee meeting. KUSHNER responded by stating that in going over the list several names came up, including EARL DURHAM and his. He said that EARL's name was then taken off and he said he made no commitment to accept.

The discussion terminated at this point.

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-128813) (19-2) DATE: 3/20/58
FROM: SA [REDACTED] (19)
SUBJECT: CPUSA - NY DISTRICT -
PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS
IS-C

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The following information was furnished by
NY 2179-S* on 2/27/58:

UTMOST CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN THE
REPORTING OF OR ANY OTHER USE OF INFORMATION FURNISHED
BY NY 2179-S* SINCE THE VERY NATURE OF THE INFORMATION
TENDS TO DISCLOSE THE IDENTITY OF THIS HIGHLY PLACED AND
SENSITIVE INFORMANT.

The informant advised that the following
took place on the evening of 2/27/58, between 6:50 p. m.
and 8:00 p. m. in the Second Floor Board Room (New York
State Board Room) at CP Headquarters, NYC.

A meeting took place, the nature of which
was not specifically clear to the informant, but most

- 1 - NY (100-81675) (CPUSA - Pamphlets & Publications) (19-1)
- ① - NY (100-80638) (CPUSA - Membership) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-128817) (CPUSA - NY DISTRICT - MEMBERSHIP) (19-1)
- 1 - NY (100-67670) (IDA POSNER) (19-2)
- 1 - NY (97-169) (PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS) (7-2)
- 1 - NY (100-26603-C 40) (CPUSA - BRONX)
- 1 - NY (100- (LOUISE (LNU) mentioned at CP
Headquarters, 2/27/58, per NY
2179-S*) (7-6)
- 1 - NY (100-128813) (19-2)

DFG:kac
(8)

100-80638-1427

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - NEW YORK	

NY 100-128813

of which was devoted to discussions on "The Worker" subscription campaign. The meeting was attended by [] and a number of persons whose identities were not known to the informant.

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Mention was made of subscriptions numbering over 300 obtained in the Bronx where there are 200 registered members. Also mentioned was the fact that Section Organizers (in the Bronx) did not have a clear knowledge of the identity or the location of that segment of sympathizers who are not Party members or are no longer Party members but have been subscribing to "The Worker".

Discussed at some length was the reported dissatisfaction of the rank and file membership with the present content and makeup of the paper ("The Worker"). Numerous suggestions were made as to what the membership would like to have included in the paper, such as things on developments within the Party, on NC meetings, the school situation, and a good "cultural page" etc.

The difficulty of achieving a successful subscription drive organization in the face of the unenthusiastic attitude of the county and local leadership was pointed out. As an example, mention was made of a Section Organizer named LOUISE (LNU) who feels that the paper should be abolished and re-built along new lines. LOUISE, although judged by herself and others as capable of so doing, has not obtained any new subscriptions to the paper because of her attitude.

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[] expressed disapproval of such an attitude pointing out that it was necessary to have a paper, and that people such as LOUISE should be made to understand that if the paper is to be changed, there has to be some practical suggestion as to what to change it to.

NY 100-128813

She agreed that there would be some sort of subscription drive apparatus in which responsibilities would be fixed.

From some of the comments made during the course of the meeting, it was apparent that considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed by the rank and file membership in the Bronx area. [redacted] asserted that "only the Bronx ridicules the paper".

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The following suggestions were made by one of those present at the meeting:

1. That "The Worker" conduct its' own campaign, having the general manager seek assistance each week from the readers.
2. Continuation of combining registrations and the subscription drive.
3. The calling of a Press Directors conference to include county and section functionaries in the New York area, and a representative from the State Organization for the purpose of planning activities for the following month. Such a conference should be held prior to any state-wide conference on the press, which possibly is to be held sometime in April.

Those assembled at the meeting agreed to meet from 7:00 p. m. to 9:00 p. m. every other Monday.

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-68)

March 20, 1958

SAC, CHICAGO (100-33740)

COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
MEMBERSHIP
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CARE SHOULD BE USED IN HANDLING AND REPORTING THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THE
INFORMANT.

CG 5824-S*, on March 18, 1958, orally furnished to
SA JOHN E. KEATING the information contained on the following
page. This information was reduced to writing on March 19,
1958.

2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)

① - New York (100-80638) (CP-USA, Membership) (#19-1) (REGISTERED)

3 - Chicago

(1 - A/134-46)

(1 - 61-867) (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)

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100-80638-1428

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 24 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters
JAN

March 18, 1958

CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party - USA and Chairman of the Communist Party of Illinois, recalled on March 17, 1958, that at the time SID STEIN gave a report on organization to the National Committee of the Communist Party - USA, it was thought that the Party would register about 10,000 members nationally in the current registration. LIGHTFOOT then wrote the figure 6,000 on a piece of paper. He stated that it is doubtful that the Party can register the figure he wrote, and that the difference can be written off as members who left the Party in recent months.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, BALTIMORE [REDACTED]
 FROM : SA ROBERT C. NORTON
 SUBJECT: INFORMATION FURNISHED
 BY SECURITY INFORMANT

DATE: 3/21/58

b7D

The documentation for this information is as follows:

Identity of Source	Date of Activity And/or Description of Information	Date Furn.	Agent	Location
[REDACTED] (who has furnished reliable information in the past)	District Board meeting, 2/24/58	2/25/58	ROBERT C. NORTON (Written)	[REDACTED]

CARE SHOULD BE USED IN REPORTING THIS INFORMATION IN ORDER THAT THE IDENTITY OF THE INFORMANT MAY BE FULLY PROTECTED

The text of the informant's statement is as follows:

* For assistance in reviewing report, a number in parentheses () following a name or title set forth below will indicate that there is a reference to that name or title on the page or pages whose number will be enclosed in the parentheses. Where no number is set out, it is suggested that the entire report be reviewed for information on the subject matter.

cc's:

- 2 - Washington Field (REGISTERED MAIL)
 ORGANIZATION, MD. - D.C.
 100-20942 ABE KOTELCHUCK
- 1 - Cleveland (REGISTERED MAIL)
 HYMAN LUMER (3-5)
- 1 - Detroit (REGISTERED MAIL)
 CARL WINTER (4)
- 1 - Philadelphia (REGISTERED MAIL)
 DAVE DAVIS (4)

SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR ADDITIONAL COPIES

RCN:sm
 (74) *sm*

100-80638-1429

SEARCHED <i>Waters</i>	INDEXED <i>Waters</i>
SERIALIZED <i>Waters</i>	FILED <i>Waters</i>
MAR 28 1958	
FBI - DETROIT	

BALTIMORE, MD.	
MAR 21, 1958	
	<i>0</i>

Waters

cc's:

- 1 - Minneapolis (REGISTERED MAIL)
CARL ROSS (4)
- 1 - San Francisco (REGISTERED MAIL)
ALBERT (MICKEY) LIMA (4,5)
- 6 - Chicago (REGISTERED MAIL)
WORKER (3,4)
SAM KUSHNER (4)
CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT (4)
FRED FINE (5)
MEMBERSHIP (8)
FUNDS (8)
- (19) New York (REGISTERED MAIL)
ORGANIZATION, CP, USA
EUGENE DENNIS
JOHN GATES
JACK STACHEL (3,4)
FACTIONALISM
WORKER (2,3,6)
FUNDS (4,6,9,10)
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN (4,5)
CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT (4)
BEN DAVIS (4,5,9)
JAMES JACKSON (4,5,9)
BOB THOMPSON (4,5)
GEORGE CHARNEY (4)
SID STEIN (5)
NEGRO QUESTION (9)
~~WILLIAM BATTERSON~~ (9)
MEMBERSHIP (9)
NEW CENTURY PUBLISHERS (9)
PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS (9,11)

42- Baltimore
SEE NEXT PAGE

cc's:

42- Baltimore

100-10975 THELMA GERENDE
100-12076 GEORGE MEYERS
100-12412 BOB LEE
100-10584 JACOB GREEN
100-20176 PETER TOORKS (2)
100-3021 EUGENE DENNIS
100-12117 JOHN GATES
HYMAN LUMER (3-5)
100-20794 JACK STACHEL (3,4)
100-15272 CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT (4)
100-1560 BEN DAVIS (4,5,9)
100-12286 ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN (4,5)
100-14379 JAMES JACKSON (4,5,9)
BOB THOMPSON (4,5)
CARL WINTER (4)
ALBERT (MICKEY) LIMA (4,5)
DAVE DAVIS (4)
100-16104 GEORGE CHARNEY (4)
CARL ROSS (4)
SID STEIN (5)
FRED FINE (5)
100-14377
100-764
100-13300
100-8342
100-11983
100-18683
100-12173
100-12146
100-8306
WILLIAM PATTERSON (9)
100-10013
100-12464 ORGANIZATION, MD. - D.C.
100-4090 BALTIMORE DIVISION, MD. - D.C.
100-12125 PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS (2,7,9-11)
100-12948 WORKER (2,6,7)
100-12458 FACTIONALISM
100-11640 FUNDS (4,6,8-11)
100-12170 MEMBERSHIP (8)
100-12209 EAST BALTIMORE, MD. - D.C. (8)
100-12485 NEGRO QUESTION (9)
FUNDS (RESERVE FUND) (10)
100-20496 TUC (10)

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[REDACTED]

"Baltimore, Maryland
February 25, 1958

The following report concerns a meeting of the CP District Board for the CP District which includes Maryland and Washington, D. C., which took place February 24, 1958, at the home of THELMA GERENDE, District Board member. Those present at the meeting in addition to THELMA GERENDE were GEORGE MEYERS, BOB LEE, and JACOB GREEN. MEYERS is the Acting Chairman for the District.

GREEN arrived at MEYERS' home at about 8:25 PM. He found GEORGE MEYERS and MEYERS' father-in-law in the dining room. There was CP literature spread out on the dining room table including 7 copies of the Sunday Worker, February 23, 1958, issue; copies of reprints from "The Nation" dated January 25, 1958, concerning W.E.B. DUBOIS; 2 large books dealing with political economy; a copy of PAUL ROBESON's book, "Here I Stand," and various pamphlets. MEYERS and his father-in-law were drinking whiskey, and MEYERS' father-in-law was apparently under the influence of the whiskey.

A social discussion followed until about 8:50 PM, at which time BOB LEE arrived.

LEE, MEYERS and GREEN then got into LEE's car and drove to THELMA GERENDE's place, arriving at about 9:10 PM.

GERENDE greeted the other three, and they went up to a room to the right of the head of the stairs on the second floor where the meeting got under way at MEYERS' suggestion about 9:25 PM.

MEYERS said he wanted to give them a brief report on the National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting and the National Committee (NC) meetings which took place February 14-16, 1958, in New York City which he had attended.

MEYERS started out by saying that the longest discussion at the NC meetings had been held around EUGENE DENNIS' report on the Draft Resolution which commenced noon of Saturday, February 15, 1958, and ended late Sunday, February 16, 1958.

MEYERS then proceeded to give a brief report on the NEC

[REDACTED]

and NC meetings in the same manner as the report he had given to JACOB GREEN concerning those meetings on February 19, 1958, with the following additions and clarifications.

MEYERS said that the agenda for the meetings included a report by HYMER LUMER on the economic situation, a report by JACK STACHEL on JOHN GATES, and the report of EUGENE DENNIS on the Draft Resolution. MEYERS said that LUMER's report was accepted unanimously, STACHEL's resolution was voted on as follows: 36 for, 12 against, with 7 abstaining, and EUGENE DENNIS' report was voted upon and received 32 for, 20 against, with 3 abstaining.

MEYERS spoke of a vote on revisionist tendencies, the subject matter of which he did not make too clear to the group, but which he indicated had been voted on as follows: 37 for, 4 against, with 11 abstaining.

MEYERS said that the move of the Sunday Worker to Chicago was discussed and voted upon, and it was finally decided by a vote of 26 in favor, 23 against, to keep The Worker temporarily in New York.

MEYERS said concerning the EUGENE DENNIS report, the 20 people who voted against the report gave various reasons for disagreeing with it, among them the statement that they did not know how broad an activity they might have to enter upon if they voted in favor of the resolution. MEYERS said the 3 who abstained mentioned the Immigration Act and the Taft-Hartley Law as reasons for abstaining.

MEYERS said as for the JACK STACHEL resolution on JOHN GATES, the people who voted against it were bitter and in general gave the same views as those who had voted against the EUGENE DENNIS report. MEYERS commented that he felt these people were looking for a way out of the CP and by voting against these measures, they had an excuse for leaving. MEYERS said it was plain that EUGENE DENNIS and his group were taking over the organization but even so, GATES still had his followers among the CP members.

MEYERS said so far as The Worker was concerned, he felt

[REDACTED]

that most of the comrades in New York on the payroll of the Party did not want the paper to be shifted to Chicago. He said that ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, who during the meetings was elected to the editorship of The Worker, felt that a shift at that particular time might destroy the paper since it would probably be difficult to find a new place in Chicago to set up a printing press, hire employees, etc. MEYERS said that some of the people who were followers of JOHN GATES, including CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, wanted the paper moved to Chicago.

MEYERS said so far as the NEC meeting, it started out with a unanimous vote to elect new members, and after the dissolving of the old NEC, a Nominating Committee was voted in and 5 people were elected, including EUGENE DENNIS, BEN DAVIS and GEORGE MEYERS. MEYERS said these 5 people went out of the room and then came back shortly thereafter with a proposal that the new NEC consist of 15 people, and their proposal was adopted unanimously.

MEYERS said that the 15 people nominated for the NEC and voted into membership included SAM KUSHNER, BEN DAVIS, EUGENE DENNIS, ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, JAMES JACKSON, HYMAN LUMER, BOB THOMPSON, CARL WINTER, JACK STACHEL, GEORGE MEYERS, MICKEY LIMA, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, DAVE DAVIS, GEORGE CHARNEY and CARL ROSS.

MEYERS said 9 of the 15 nominated and voted upon accepted and 6 declined. The 6 that declined included CHARNEY, DAVE DAVIS, LIGHTFOOT, STACHEL, WINTER and ROSS. MEYERS said the 6 who had declined were people who had voted against the EUGENE DENNIS report. MEYERS said these people gave such poor reasons for declining the NEC appointment that he did not even intend to report it to the District Board. MEYERS said he felt these people had been in the past supporters of JOHN GATES and were still thinking along the lines of GATES' theory.

MEYERS said that MICKEY LIMA had been a GATES supporter but when nominated, accepted and the EUGENE DENNIS forces felt that LIMA had changed his position when he realized that GATES was trying to liquidate the CP.

MEYERS said that he did not know whether LIMA would

[REDACTED]

continue to serve on the NEC since NEC meetings took place every six weeks and since LIMA was from the West Coast, it would be expensive to have him attend meetings regularly. MEYERS said he felt the problem on LIMA would be discussed further in New York.

MEYERS said the way it stood, 6 more members were needed on the NEC, but the CP leadership did not intend to put new members up for nomination until the next NC meeting since the 6 who had declined might change their mind and decide to cooperate with the EUGENE DENNIS forces.

LEE asked whether SID STEIN or FRED FINE had been nominated for office, and, when MEYERS replied in the negative, THELMA GERENDE appeared to be upset.

MEYERS then stated that these people were not nominated even though the JOHN GATES followers were being led by SID STEIN. He pointed out, however, that the EUGENE DENNIS forces had been willing to place GATES followers on the NEC, but that those nominated except for MICKEY LIMA had declined to accept the responsibility. MEYERS said that he felt with such an attitude it was still apparent that GATES and his followers were still hoping to transform the organization into a political association.

MEYERS said so far as elections for secretaries for the Party, DENNIS was elected to a position as Secretary, JACKSON was elected to Secretary of Negro Affairs, LUMER Secretary for Education, THOMPSON Organizational Secretary, and MEYERS elected to Labor Secretary. MEYERS said, however, he had not as yet accepted the position.

MEYERS then talked about his being elected for the position of Secretary for Labor. He said that this job had been offered to him by DENNIS, BEN DAVIS and JACKSON as early as the time he had attended the 16th National Convention. MEYERS said after attending the recent CP national meetings, DAVIS, DENNIS, JACKSON and ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN kept after him to accept the position. MEYERS said he didn't know too much about the job, did not know whether he would have to leave Baltimore or give

[REDACTED]

up his local Chairmanship. He said that he hadn't closed the door on the proposition, and as to whether he accepted it or not would depend on the situation surrounding the work and what the job called for.

MEYERS then said that he noted on numerous occasions while in New York for national CP meetings that word had spread around that people on the CP payroll did not always get paid on time and that the Party was in debt. MEYERS said he was also thinking of the fact that it took him a long time to get a job after coming out of prison and that he did not like the idea of being away from home for extended periods. MEYERS also commented that his wife had recently gotten a job. MEYERS concluded by saying that when he went to the next NEC meeting, he would try to find out what the Labor Secretary's job entailed.

MEYERS then said that the LUMER report would appear in the Sunday Worker in the near future, and that this report plus the EUGENE DENNIS report would be used for the basis of an organizational drive.

It was noted that LEE and GERENDE were not too happy about MEYERS' report judging by their expressions, particularly with regard to the fact that none of the GATES supporters had achieved a leadership status.

LEE next commented that the situation in the CP was better for the fact that the factional situation within the Party had been done away with, and he thought that something might now be achieved. LEE said he thought the national leadership was correct in asking the GATES forces to assist the CP and leaving the door open for the JOHN GATES followers to take leadership positions on the NEC.

GREEN then asked about the National Administrative Committee (NAC).

MEYERS replied that there were two more positions to be filled.

GERENDE then stated that even though a stride forward had been taken by eliminating the factional situation,

[redacted]

she felt that in the Baltimore area they would run into problems with regard to JOHN GATES followers. She said that in the last two or three weeks she had talked to people who had supported JOHN GATES and noted that even though these people had seen him on TV, had read articles about him in the New York Post, and had read articles on him in other sections of the capitalist press which pictured GATES as a turncoat, they still felt that GATES' thinking on most things was correct. She said that she felt sure [redacted]

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[redacted] and various people in her CP section still felt that GATES' ideas should not be done away with completely. She concluded by saying that she hoped things would smooth out and warned that even though the GATES forces were not in CP leadership positions, they could still split the organization wide open.

GERENDE then said that [redacted] had recently sent word to her that he wanted to talk with her. She said she didn't know why but planned to meet with him in the near future.

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MEYERS then stated that "we" are going to try to contact everyone in the area who is or was in the CP regardless of ideological outlook, but it had to be made clear to the JOHN GATES followers that the present leadership would not tolerate the type of activity carried on by the GATES forces in the past. MEYERS said that those supporting the EUGENE DENNIS group would have to be ready at all times to repudiate the ideas of the GATES followers.

MEYERS stated that the previous night a young man had visited his home. MEYERS said that according to his understanding, this fellow had at one time been a CP member and had not been contacted recently. MEYERS said this fellow wanted to become active again as a member. MEYERS said he didn't know the man personally and so could not say anything about his past Party membership. MEYERS said he could not commit himself concerning the person being accepted as a CP member, but arrangements were made for the individual to receive the Sunday Worker and Political Affairs. MEYERS said

[REDACTED]

he wanted to discuss this individual at length at some District Board meeting in the near future.

MEYERS then asked whether at the next District Board meeting there should be further discussion on the NEC and NC meetings or discussions on registration and fund drives.

After District Board members had discussed the matter, it was finally decided that at the next District Board meeting they should go about making a report which would be passed on to the CP members in the District. It was also decided that if there was spare time at the next meeting, there would be discussions on registration and fund drives.

MEYERS said that he felt registration and fund drives were very important and they should get them under way in the near future. He then said that in Chicago the Party was making an all-out effort to regain subscriptions to The Worker and to raise funds.

It was then decided by the Board that they should meet March 3, 1958, at the home of THELMA GERENDE.

BOB LEE then stated that his CP club had a meeting the past week at the home of [REDACTED] LEE said it was not a full meeting, with only about five or six people present. LEE said at the meeting some woman stated that she wanted to quit the CP because of trouble with [REDACTED] LEE said he convinced her that she should not quit since she had some time in the organization. She finally stated that she wanted her membership held in abeyance. LEE said that there was quite a bit of discussion at the meeting and all he did was listen. LEE said he felt that he himself was satisfied with the way the problem had been solved, but after he and SIRKKA LEE had left the meeting, SIRKKA asked him why he hadn't entered the discussion more fully since he was the club leader. LEE said he told his wife that where personalities were involved, it was best not to get into the discussion, and that he personally felt that the disagreement would be cleared up and the

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[REDACTED]

woman would retain her membership.

MEYERS then stated that LEE had taken the correct approach, and that an issue of that sort should not be forced.

MEYERS then stated that discussions at the NEC and NC meetings of the past weekend indicated that the Negro question was becoming of greater importance and was a crucial question in the organization. MEYERS said that at the NC meetings, BEN DAVIS, JACKSON and WILLIAM PATTERSON were pushing the question of Negro membership into the CP to a point that MEYERS could only describe their attitude as "aggressive." MEYERS said that these Negro leaders in the CP repeatedly pointed out that while the Party was calling for Negro and white unity, the Negro membership in the CP continued to decline.

MEYERS then stated that at one point in the NC meetings, JACKSON gave forth on ways and means to rebuild Negro membership in the CP, but that the discussion became so confused that he finally went to JACKSON and asked him to prepare his views in writing and send them to MEYERS so he could have the benefit of studying them.

GERENDE then stated that something interesting happened at Washington, D. C., while she was attending a meeting there.

LEE said what took place?

MEYERS looked at his watch and said, "It is 11:05 PM, let's discuss this at some future time."

MEYERS then stated that he was thinking of procuring a mail box for the CP, and after discussion the Board agreed that the suggestion was a good one.

LEE then searched his pockets and finally turned to GERENDE and said that he could not locate the bill he had received from New Century Publishers for CP literature, but that it amounted to \$65.00. LEE said that the bill covered District purchases of CP literature up until the end of February.

GERENDE then went to the closet in the room where the

[REDACTED]

meeting was held and brought forth a large brown envelope which contained a number of smaller white envelopes, and from one of the white envelopes took \$65.00 in bills and gave them to LEE.

MEYERS then said that he hated to present such a large bill, but that he had \$105.00 for expenses which included telephone calls to New York, the trip to New York to attend the NEC and NC meetings of February 14-16, 1958, and the loss of two days' pay while attending the CP national meetings. MEYERS commented that he was unable to find a place to stay in New York and had to go to a hotel. MEYERS said further that the CP leadership had given him \$60.00 from the \$75.00 he had brought with him but that the District still owed him \$45.00.

GERENDE then looked through the money that was contained in the various small white envelopes and said, "We haven't got it here." She then asked GEORGE MEYERS whether he wanted to take it out of the "other."

MEYERS replied that he would like to have her give him the money since he only worked two days the previous week.

GERENDE then got up, went out of the room closing the door behind her, and returned in about five minutes with a small white envelope containing paper money folded up with a rubber band around it. GERENDE counted out \$45.00 in bills and gave them to MEYERS. After she gave MEYERS the money she counted the rest of the paper money in the envelope, of which five one hundred dollar bills, four twenty dollar bills, one ten dollar bill, and three or four five dollar bills were visible. The total sum in the envelope including the \$45.00 given to GEORGE MEYERS was about \$700.00.

GERENDE, after counting it, put the money back in the envelope.

GREEN then told GERENDE that he had money from collections for CP literature. He said that \$1.05 consisted of collections at the last Trade Union Commission meeting and \$1.50 was from [REDACTED] GREEN then gave GERENDE three one dollar bills with

[REDACTED]

serial numbers as follows: P 46401783 I
M 05284653 I
P 70657307 I

GREEN received forty-five cents in change from GERENDE.

MEYERS then spoke of the books on political economy, saying he had only gotten three in New York and was retaining one of them for himself.

LEE and GERENDE offered to buy the two remaining copies, and it was decided that MEYERS would procure another copy of the book from New York for GREEN.

GERENDE and LEE then each took a copy.

MEYERS then asked that the PAUL ROBESON book, "Here I Stand," be pushed among the membership so that as many copies as possible could be sold.

MEYERS then gave THELMA GERENDE three copies of DENNIS' report on the Draft Resolution and JACKSON's report on GATES. He gave LEE the same number of copies and gave GREEN one copy each of the pamphlets.

MEYERS then gave GERENDE, LEE and GREEN seven or eight copies each of the excerpt from "The Nation" concerning W.E.B. DUBOIS.

GERENDE gave GREEN four of her copies, stating that he could probably find more use for them.

LEE then passed out two copies apiece of the Literature Bulletin dated February, 1958.

The meeting was then adjourned about 11:20 PM. "

This memo has been compared with the informant's original statement and it is accurate in substance.

GEORGE MEYERS' father-in-law is PETER TOORKS.

BOB LEE's club referred to on Page 8 is probably the East Baltimore Club since LEE has previously referred to his club as the East Baltimore Club.

The young man referred to on Page 7 is [REDACTED]

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (100-1878)

3/20/58

FROM: SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CPUSA - MINN.-DAKOTA DISTRICT
Minneapolis Division
IS - C

Purpose:

To record information contained in a written report dated 2/28/58 received personally from [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, by SA [REDACTED] on 3/3/58. Informant was contacted in the vicinity of Texas Ave. & Highway #7. Informant's written report is filed as [REDACTED]

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Details:

Informant's report is set out verbatim:

"February 29, 1958

"This is a report on a State Executive Board meeting of the Communist Party of Minnesota at the home of [REDACTED] Ave. S., Mpls., which was held on 2/27/58 at about 8 p.m. and adjourned at about 11:30 p.m.

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"Present were MARTIN MACKIE, who chaired the meeting, CLARENCE SHARP, [REDACTED], CARL ROSS, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

CC: 100-1878-HH (CP FACTIONALISM) CC: NEW YORK (RM)(12)
100-1878-V (CP MEMBERSHIP)
100-1878-P (ORGANIZATION)

100-371 [REDACTED]
100-367 MARTIN MACKIE
100-11152 [REDACTED]
100-4437 [REDACTED]
100-6379 CARL ROSS
61-29 CLARENCE SHARP

100-80641 CPUSA ORGANIZATION
100-87211 CPUSA FACTIONALISM
100-74560 CPUSA FUNDS
100-80638 MEMBERSHIP
97-169 WORKER
100-21259 [REDACTED]
100-14859 [REDACTED]
100-18672 MAX WEISS
100-1696 ELIZABETH FLYNN
100-7413 NAT ROSS
100- EARL BROWDER
100- [REDACTED]

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DPB:JMK
(23)

Waters 100-1878-1430

SEARCHED	INDEXED	SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 20 1958	MAR 20 1958	MAR 20 1958	MAR 20 1958
FBI - MINNEAPOLIS			

J. Waters J.W.

19-1

100-1878

"The agenda was as follows: National Committee Meeting of the CP; the elections for 1958; the Labor Conference, and THE WORKER.

"Before the report on the National Committee Meeting, which was given by CARL ROSS and CLARENCE SHARP, CLARENCE SHARP made a proposal regarding the Trade Union Conference which is to be held in Chicago on 3/8 & 9, which [redacted] and [redacted] will attend as delegates, which proposal dealt with the farmer and labor to this extent: First, labor's responsibility towards the farmer--this is something which CLARENCE SHARP stated was never understood in the Party and which should be in the labor-policy resolution; he also said that the Party leadership never took responsibility to see that it was understood in the Party, and that this question should be approached from the point of view of how the farm problem affects labor. CLARENCE SHARP is to draft this farmer-labor-policy statement, which he will give to [redacted] the two delegates to Chicago, on Wednesday evening, March 5, 1958, at about 7:30 P.M.

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"Next was the report of the National Committee Meeting, given by CARL, with additional remarks by CLARENCE SHARP. At this point, the agenda was pretty much lost and there was a lot of name-calling and hard feelings caused at the opening. CARL ROSS reported that the first part on the agenda was the unemployment, on which he did not care to elaborate, but he moved on into the main battle in the National Committee, which was between resolutions, one of which was presented by EUGENE DENNIS, and another of which originally started out as a Northern California resolution which was modified by CARL WINTER and CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT. CARL reported that the WINTER-LIGHTFOOT resolution, he felt, was a good resolution and should have been passed over the DENNIS resolution. He felt that it was a compromise resolution and would have a tendency to keep the Party unified, whereas the DENNIS resolution did not do this. He felt that the DENNIS resolution was moving the Party back towards a bureaucracy and felt that it had many things in it which were not correct.

"There wasn't too much elaboration on the resolutions; it was the subject of the resolutions where there was the most dispute. CARL felt that there had been a lot of hatchet work done at the crossroads by the Left group in the Party.

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"After CARL told about how the WINTER-LIGHTFOOT resolutions were defeated and the DENNIS resolution was adopted, there was an election committee went out and brought in a slate of 15 candidates for the purpose of electing a new Executive Board. The resident members of this Executive Board--that is, the people who live in New York--would constitute a Political Committee, replacing the old Administrative Committee, and this committee would have the power to make decisions.

"The DENNIS resolution says there will be no such thing as purges but CARL ROSS pointed out that when the Resolution Committee came back in, the names of FRED FINE and SID STEIN were eliminated from the 15 delegates which the Election Committee had proposed for the National Executive Committee and he was quite put out about this.

"The names that were proposed for the National Executive Committee were:

EUGENE DENNIS	ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
BEN DAVIS	JIM JACKSON
MICKEY LIMA	BERT NELSON
(fnu) MYERS from Maryland	CARL ROSS
JACK STACHEL	SAM KUSCHNER
HY LUMER	CARL WINTERS
ROBERT THOMPSON	STEVE NELSON

It is not known who the other persons were.

"Then there were nominations from the floor, and the names of FRED FINE, SID STEIN, DOROTHY HEALY, MARTHA STONE, and GEORGE BLAKE CHARNEY were also added. There were 22 nominated in all. Then they had declinations; everybody declined except DENNIS, DAVIS, LIMA, MYERS, STACHEL, LUMER, THOMPSON, FLYNN, JACKSON, NELSON, and CHARNEY and one other person. This meant 12 out of the 22; and the Committee, or the Left, wasn't quite pleased with this result so they said they would go out and come back in and nominate nine if the other three members that were nominated originally would drop off, and they did, so it ended up with DENNIS, DAVIS, LIMA, MYERS, STACHEL, LUMER, THOMPSON, FLYNN, and JACKSON and the other six members are to be added at the next committee meeting.

"It's interesting to note here that SAM KUSCHNER from Chicago, who is on the Left, and CARL WINTER, who is on the Left also, declined, as well as STEVE NELSON. The

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"Other people that declined are more or less to the Right, like CHARNEY, FINE, STEIN, ROSS, HEALY, and STONE, although MICKEY LIMA, who is also to the Right, did accept on the National Executive Committee.

"Out of the nine people that were elected to the Executive Committee, and they had to receive a majority vote and they did, MICKY LIMA received the highest vote at this National Committee meeting--he had 53; FLYNN had about 47, and the rest of them varied between 40 and 33; DENNIS only received 33, as well as BEN DAVIS and THOMPSON.

"The resident members of this committee, like DAVIS, MYERS from Maryland, STACHEL, LUMER, THOMPSON, FLYNN, and JACKSON will make up the Political Committee, with power to make decisions for the Party between National Committee meetings and Executive Committee meetings.

"Before the elections for the Executive Committee, there was also a proposal that the question of moving to Chicago should be taken up first and it was put to a vote, and the Election Committee came up first, with a vote of 33 to a vote of 22, and therefore, the question of the move to Chicago was postponed until after the elections for the National Executive Committee.

"After the election of the Executive Committee, the vote to move to Chicago was defeated by the same margin, 33 to 22. CARL ROSS felt this was a flagrant violation of the National Convention of the CP, where they voted unanimously to move to Chicago. Actually, it's the only way, that the Left could keep power--that is, by staying in New York--because the leaders of the Left are very strong in New York at the present date. CARL ROSS felt that many people were leaving the Party because of the decisions the National Committee made; in fact, he said that the 'distributors' section of the Party--the leadership--had all left the Party.

"CLARENCE SHARP spoke next. He felt that CARL ROSS had presented the National Committee meeting all wrong and he felt that he was way off base on it, and he went on to say that the New York State Committee a year ago supported the line of JOHNNY GATES and now supported the line of FOSTER, and he felt that CARL ROSS was a supporter of GATES and he called him a revisionist and right opportunist and accused him of factionalism.

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"CARL ROSS then turned around and said to CLARENCE, 'I do not believe you know what the meaning of factionalism is.'

"CLARENCE SHARP said he felt that the attacks on the socialist countries were called for by the Right and that this is something which should not exist in the CP.

"Earlier, CLARENCE SHARP had said that THE WORKER had been sabotaged and he went on to state that THE WORKER funds had been withheld from THE WORKER because the Left had felt that the Right, which consisted of people like MAX GORDON, who was managing THE WORKER had misused THE WORKER funds, and therefore, they were withholding money from THE WORKER. CLARENCE went on to say that when MAX GORDON was the manager of THE WORKER he had given one of the office girls \$700 severance pay and she went off to California the next day. He also reported that MAX GORDON, who quit, MAX WEISS,

[redacted] when they quit, demanded severance pay of \$1100 and threatened to go to the Guild (that's the newspaper union) if they did not get their severance pay. As a result, THE WORKER was put in very much financial difficulty and finally an agreement was worked out whereby they would pay these four men \$100 a week for their severance pay. CLARENCE SHARP said this was nothing more than blackmail and he felt that this was the result of JOHNNY GATES and the Right in the Party.

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"MARTIN MACKIE spoke, and he was hot under the collar, and this was agitated by the fact that [redacted] needled him every once in a while about how he chaired the meeting, and during the heat of the discussion by MARTIN, he said, 'I'm resigning as chairman of the Party.' Probably this will take effect and become a reality in the near future.

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"After a while, CLARENCE SHARP made the proposal that this position of CARL ROSS be brought up before the State Committee meeting. At first, it sounded like he was proposing an expulsion or reprimand for CARL ROSS. CARL then said to CLARENCE, 'What do you expect of me? I tried to give a candid report of the National Committee meeting. That's the way I see it.'

"After that, things cooled down a little and they did set a State Committee meeting for approximately April 20.

"They also elected a new press director; MARTIN resigned to spend more time with his bookstore. The new director is [redacted] questioned whether CARL ROSS should be spending so much time with the Centennial leaflet; he felt that CARL was wasting too much time.

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"There was also a proposal brought forth by CLARENCE which, apparently had been discussed previous to the meeting, with [redacted], on a Political Committee such as set up by the National Committee. CLARENCE proposed that MARTIN, CARL, and [redacted] and himself be the four people on this Political Committee. This was finally agreed upon; in fact, CARL did not object to it, although ROSS did not appear to approve of it.

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"There was also the report of CARL ROSS' to the State Committee on elections, which was not discussed a great deal except that CLARENCE SHARP had reservations about it and did not want it passed out immediately. SAM DAVIS suggested that the resolution be held up one week so that CLARENCE could get out a leaflet pointing out his points of views. This was voted on. The vote was three for it--consisting of CLARENCE SHARP, [redacted] MARTIN MACKIE voted against it, and CARL ROSS and [redacted] abstained. [redacted] said he felt that this was a lot of hair-splitting--all these arguments--and he felt that the only way you can tell who is right and who is wrong is by the work done and that any movement or work done has to have a mass basis.

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[redacted] also reported that his club had met and wanted the Board to send a member of the National Committee to report on it and that they were to decide which one of the members it would be. MARTIN MACKIE said that this placed a lot of responsibility on the Board and he felt that the Club should decide whom they want. [redacted] reported that the club already decided they wanted the Board to make this decision. As a result of what NOEL said, it was decided that both CARL and CLARENCE SHARP would report to all the clubs on the National Committee meeting. As a result, CLARENCE SHARP is to speak at the next club meeting of [redacted] and at the following meeting CARL ROSS will speak.

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"CARL ROSS also reported that at the National Committee meeting there was a resolution presented by JACK STACHEL which is called 'Resolution on JOHNNY GATES,' which was adopted by the National Committee on 2/15/58. This resolution is mostly an attack upon JOHNNY GATES, calling him a reformist, right opportunist, and every other Communist phrase a person could think of, and really puts it in strong language. CARL ROSS said he did not support this resolution; he felt it did not add anything to the resolution which the National Executive Committee adopted earlier

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"on JOHNNY GATES.

"When this resolution came up on the floor, the other resolution which was adopted by the National Executive Committee was also brought up and both motions were voted on at the same time. The JACK STACHEL resolution received 33 votes; the other resolution--the resolution of the Executive Committee--received 22 votes, which would be pretty much according to Right and Left.

"Regarding the resolution of WINTER-LIGHTFOOT, CARL said to CLARENCE, 'Show me where this is wrong,' and of course, CLARENCE did not answer him at that time because they really started getting hot and bothered again and calling each other names, like revisionist, etc.

"The resolutions of the National Committee meeting will be presented before the club and the State Committee and by this time the Minnesota District will be much involved in this discussion. At the present time CARL ROSS, does not seem to want to resign from the Party, although if he is pushed hard enough, he may. Of course, the main pushers will be [redacted] and CLARENCE SHARP. MARTIN MACKIE, has already resigned himself to taking a back seat in the affairs of the Party; in fact, he said he's going to be out of town for a few days, working, he hopes. CARL ROSS also reported that he hoped to have two or three weeks work in March and therefore would not be able to devote so much time to the Party.

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All in all, ROSS and MARTIN are turning over the leadership to CLARENCE SHARP & [redacted]

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[redacted] asked MARTIN MACKIE about the registration situation of the CP in this District. MACKIE said there were 233 registered CP members in the District, counting the St. Paul section.

"CLARENCE SHARP, while discussing the WORKER situation, said that he believes ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN will take over as editor of THE WORKER with BILL PATTERSON as general manager. SHARP said he learned in New York that LESTER RODNEY is still writing in the WORKER under the name of 'HOUSE' and that he, CLARENCE, did not approve of this as he thought RODNEY should be dropped. CLARENCE SHARP also said he had heard a rumor in N.Y. to the effect that a new paper was to be formed, with NAT ROSS & EARL BROWDER heading up the newspaper."

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No copies of this memo are being directed to the New York case files on individual national committee members as information re 2/15-16/58 National Committee meeting has been previously reported by other informants. However, copies are being sent to certain New York subject files where information furnished by informant is felt to be pertinent to the subject.

Action:

File copies in designated files.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

DATE: 3/24/58

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-80641)

SUBJECT: CP, USA - ORGANIZATION
IS - C

Care must be utilized in handling and reporting the following information since the very nature of this information tends to disclose the identity of a highly placed and sensitive informant.

The following is a report of highlights of a meeting of the newly elected National Executive Committee, CP, USA, held in NYC on 2/17/58, as reported by NY 2179-S*.

2-Bureau (100-3-69) (RM)
2-Baltimore (CP, USA - Organization) (RM)
 (1-100-) (GEORGE MEYERS) (RM)
1-Chicago (100-18953) (CP, USA-Organization) RM
2-Cleveland (100-) (CP, USA - Organization) (RM)
 (1-100-) (HY LUMER)
2-Los Angeles (100-26044) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
 (1-100-) (DOROTHY HEALEY)
2-San Francisco (100-27747) (CP, USA-Organization) (RM)
 (1-65-1242) (MICKEY LIMA)
1-New York (100-8057) (EUGENE DENNIS) (19-1)
1-New York (100-16785) (JAMES JACKSON) (19-1)
1-New York (100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON) (19-1)
1-New York (100-1696) (ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN) (19-1)
1-New York (100-18065) (JACK STACHEL) (19-1)
1-New York (100-23825) (BEN DAVIS, Jr.) (19-1)
1-New York (100-13473) (SIMON W. GERSON) (19-1)
1-New York (100-84275) (WILLIAM PATTERSON) (19-2)
①-New York (100-80638) (CP, USA-Membership) (19-1)
1-New York (100-81675) (CP, USA-Pamphlets and Publications) (19-1)
1-New York (100-4931) (CP, USA)
1-New York (100-81338) (Security Measures) (19-1)
1-New York (100-80644) (Youth Matters) (19-1)
1-New York (100-89590) (Strategy In Industry) (19-1)
1-New York (100-80641)

FJS:mxg
(26)

100-80638-1431

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAR 24 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

[Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the stamp.]

NY 100-80641

The informant advised that this meeting was held in the third floor board room of CP headquarters, 23 West 26th St., NYC, on the above date. NY 2179-S* advised that to the best of his knowledge, the following individuals were in attendance at this meeting.

EUGENE DENNIS
JAMES JACKSON
GEORGE MEYERS
ROBERT THOMPSON
ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN
MICKY LIMA
HY LUMER
JACK STACHEL
BEN DAVIS

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

He opened the meeting at 1:30 PM stating that the National Committee had delegated a lot of political authority to the National Executive Committee (NEC) and offered the opinion that they would have a common agreement amongst the majority of the members of the NEC. He proposed that they should reach some conclusion on the economic situation and also on a program of action. He proposed that the comrade to be editor ("The Worker") should enjoy the confidence of the National Committee.

At this point, an unknown individual asked, "What about SI (GERSON)?" To this question DENNIS advised that he (SI) was a native New Yorker and was not in sympathy with going to Chicago. He further added that SI was not too happy working on a weekly paper. DENNIS proposed that GEORGE (MEYERS) be considered as Labor Secretary, describing him as an individual who had carried the fight and had had recent experience in relation to textile union matters.

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Individual Believed to be JAMES JACKSON

He stated that a study should be made of the problems of the Party organization and that certain standards should be set predicated upon a review of past practices. He mentioned that while it was impossible to anticipate every question, a calendar of obvious things should be scheduled for examination, mentioning as examples the question of the Political Action Association; the need for an up-to-date report on the postponed question of Negro work and the taking up of ideological questions. He offered the opinion that efficiency and production should be the test and the measure of the contributions made by the leadership and further that the leadership should repair the differences and breaches within the Party. He mentioned that on the question of fixing organizational responsibility, he had not proposed that BOB THOMPSON be made Organizational Secretary.

Remarks of GEORGE MEYERS

He stated that he did not consider the question of leadership to be a static situation, commenting that things are in motion in this country and all types of issues were becoming sharper. He stated that any tendencies upon the part of leadership to consider the meat-axe approach should be smacked down for they would do the utmost harm to the Party. He commented that he had conversed with SI (GERSON) on the previous day and described SI as the kind of man who wants to do the job. He then referred to a letter which he stated had disturbed the comrades in Washington very much explaining that it was sent down by PAT (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON?). He described the letter as dealing primarily with an office in the National Press Club. He stated that this office had been maintained merely as a matter of prestige and that it had been paid for in the past by comrades who had been receiving profits from the "Daily Worker". He continued by stating that since there was no longer a "Daily Worker", there are no profits with which to pay for the office and added that he had discussed the question of raising money for this office with SI (GERSON).

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Remarks of Individual Believed to be BOB THOMPSON

He commented that it would be very important to bring the material from the National Committee meeting to the Party membership in a practical and rapid manner. He stated that they must bring an official estimate and interpretation of the National Committee meeting to the membership and commented that this involved getting out a summary of HY's (LUMER) report very swiftly.

He explained that in his opinion, it was tremendously important that the Party would not get a distorted picture of the main significance of the National Committee report. He continued by stating a decision should be reached as to the form in which to publish the resolutions and offered the opinion that it would be better to wait until the next issue of P.A. (Political Affairs). He added that consideration should be given to publishing some in "The Worker" and the county papers.

He commented that in addition, consideration should be given to the advisability of an open letter to the membership interpreting the meeting and explaining the importance of orienting the Party to the economic situation. He suggested that consideration should also be given to the scheduling of a number of large State committee meetings where reports could be given which would include the center of the economic situation and the mobilization of the Party for work in that field.

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He added that the letter could include resolutions with respect to the prospectives for the Party and offered the opinion that such conferences would have a stimulating and mobilizing effect upon the Party at this time and also serve to prevent distortion being spread within the Party.

THOMPSON advised that he considered the proposal for ELIZABETH (GURLEY FLYNN) to become the editor-in-chief of the Sunday "Worker" to be a very substantial and good proposal. He prognosticated that this action would have a very good, immediate and long term effect upon the quality of the paper itself, in addition to improving the relationship and the attitude of the Party toward the paper. He added that this should help facilitate the drive to put the paper on the street.

THOMPSON commented that he was in favor of SI (GERSON) remaining as Executive Editor of the paper and offered the opinion that SI wanted to remain. He advised that it was his hope that GEORGE (MEYERS) receive very careful consideration with respect to the position of Trade Union Secretary explaining that he realized it would involve a lot of personal and family problems for GEORGE, but stated that if he could accept it, it would be an extremely helpful thing for the Party. He related that it would be helpful in strengthening the general leadership of the center and added that among other things, if GEORGE came in as Trade Union Secretary, it would represent to some extent a refreshing of the center.

Remarks of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

She stated "the meat axe attitude is gone". She offered the opinion that there would more regard for security in the future. She recalled the time when

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documents flew all over the country and stated that when she left for prison there had been some regard for security. She remarked that she was very honored by the proposal (editor-in-chief) and added that although she was physically hampered in a good many ways, she was confident that she would be able to do a better job than her predecessor (JOHN GATES). She stated that she would feel more confident in facing the responsibility of the position if she could be sure that SI (GERSON) would remain, describing him as extremely competent.

She continued by stating that she had worked with SI under many circumstances, describing him as very competent and loyal to the party, and offering the hope that he would accept the proposal without rancor. She petitioned (GEORGE MEYERS) to consider the situation carefully and also the importance of not having a sense of "inferiority", stating that she often felt that she owed GEORGE an apology. She added that with BOB (THOMPSON) as Organizational Secretary they would be off to a good start.

Remarks of JACK STACHEL

He compared the Party in the US to that of China, suggesting that the Party follow the policies so successfully applied by the Chinese comrades. In discussing the paper ("The Worker"), he stated that in his opinion there was no contradiction between the paper being a mass paper dealing with main issues and reaching new workers, and at the same time administering to the needs of the Party itself.

He referred to DENNIS, JACKSON, THOMPSON and LUMER as the four people who are working full time and commented that they could divide the work wherein one, in the absence of the other, could carry on. As an

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example of this he cited how THOMPSON, in the absence of LUMER could handle the educational work. He stated that even though he felt that the comrades were ready to elect officers, he felt they should not make anything final at that time. He mentioned that at a future meeting, possibly two or three weeks from then, they could discuss the situation again and then reach their final decisions, commenting that in the meantime, GEORGE (MEYERS) could think things over.

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Remarks of Unknown Male
(Possibly MICKEY LIMA)

He discussed organizational problems, remarking that a number of staff people have various assignments which tend to run together, declaring that because of this, the political center does not stand out as such. He recommended that an administrative link to the Executive Committee be set up with either GENE (DENNIS) or BOB (THOMPSON) to be responsible for attending to the details. He related that in the recent past a number of individuals had been given temporary assignments upon their release from jail and as a result he, himself, was not clear as to who was responsible to whom or for what. He stated that without assigned areas of responsibility "it" just does not work over a long period of time.

He stated that in relation to the 1958 elections, they had singled out the question of anti-labor legislation and unemployment as the key factors. He commented that if the Party would concentrate on these, it would be possible for them to set the Party into motion as an organized unit. He commented upon the labor movement being in motion throughout the country, and stated that as far as the Party was concerned, it was the most obvious facet to be utilized in setting the Party into motion as an organized force. He further commented that unemployment and anti-labor legislation would become a major problem in every key district and key city in the country, and advocated an aggressive move on the part of the Party to follow up the effects of the Mc Clellan Committee on labor. He described the Negro question as being directly tied in with both unemployment and anti-labor activities.

He advised that the situation with regard to the Labor Youth League (LYL) was folding up and commented that many young labor youth people were becoming involved in Socialist groupings. He advocated the setting up of new clubs in an attempt to bring together the young people of the Party and give them some form whereby they could begin to re-establish control and direction of the younger people. He referred to

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a lecture at the Stanford University campus, given by AL (LNU), and remarked how the students there had kept AL (LNU) plied with questions for hours after the class was over. With reference to the latter situation, he averred that the Party has to figure out the form and ways to begin to provide the avenues for refreshing the Party. He stated that the Party can not move forward with people who are in their late 50s, 60s, and 70s. He commented upon the necessity for tackling the political and ideological questions that face the Party, saying that one of the things that has to be handled is "aggressive factionalism." He remarked that they would have to guarantee that people had ways of raising ideological questions. He mentioned the fact that at present there were a number of people ready to follow the ideological thinking of GATES (JOHN). He advised that the type of attitude amongst the members of the committee would have a profound effect on what remained in the thinking and the minds of the comrades throughout the Party.

Remarks of Unknown Male
(Possibly HY LUMER)

He advocated the preparation of a plan for restoring Party legality, and mentioned the use of educational ends as a possible means toward achieving this legal restoration. In commenting on careerism, he mentioned that there were those comrades who worked full time in the Party, and stated that they will have to justify their careers by the power of their own words. The informant advised that this comment was followed by much laughter. He referred to LENIN as being a model of modesty and commented that they should all follow LENIN's example and be modest.

Remarks of BEN DAVIS

He stated that he agreed with the proposals of GENE (DENNIS) and BOB (THOMPSON), commenting that both proposals dealt with how to bring the National Committee meeting to the membership. He advised that he would add

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only one other thought which was that the National Committee members must themselves appear before the Party and thus cement a relationship that they had not had within the Party in the past. He enumerated the following as being the primary things which the National Committee had prefixed:

1. Unemployment must be popularized.
2. The question of the roll of the Party around DENNIS' resolution.
3. The question of leadership.

He proffered the opinion that the Party expected bold action and above all a very clear exposition of the role of the Party. He stated that he shared the members' feelings about explaining to the membership the Party's role and also popularizing the DENNIS resolution. He continued that leadership has to activate the Party, saying that it needs all of the skills, flexibilities, tactics, and experience within the cadre of the Party in order to achieve results. He described the job to be accomplished as a challenge to the entire leadership. He stated that the argument would be raised that the whole thing was a violation of the 16th National Convention, offering the opinion that there could be no quarter given on this question. He remarked that inasmuch as most comrades were loyal, the development of a proper line and policy would have a very profound effect upon all of the comrades.

He commented upon the ROBESON (PAUL) book and described it as a major political event in America. He added that this book was a real weapon of Negro integration, peace, etc. With reference to the question of peace, he discussed the bombing of a small town by the French (apparently referring to the Tunisian bombing incident) and stated that not only was it an example of brutality by the French Army, but also a classic example of how a war could start accidentally. He remarked upon planes flying around loaded with H Bombs and the possibility of an accident involving same of leading the world into another war. With reference to the Tunisian incident and his above remarks, he stated that the Party had not really grabbed on to it as it should have.

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He mentioned that he wanted an expression of opinion on SI (GERSON), saying that for the moment SI would be a very good thing for the particular situation. He remarked that he thought PATTERSON (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) should be on the Editorial Board even though that would not solve the problem of a leading Negro advisor on the Editorial Board (of "The Worker"). He advocated getting in touch with MICKEY (LIMA) in order to acquire his views on questions which would be coming up, saying that he did not mean just contacting MICKEY on a once a month basis.

Remarks of EUGENE DENNIS

He described the meeting as an auspicious beginning and stated that he was particularly appreciative of the opinions expressed in regard to the National Committee, saying that the Party, itself, will pass judgment on the "Document." He mentioned that the leadership will have to think in terms of messages to the membership which should come from the National Executive Committee. He advocated that high priority should be given to the report of HY (LUMER). He commented that there were not too many comrades who had demonstrated a capacity for organization. He mentioned that the total actual registration was up about 3,500. He commented upon a meeting in Youngstown with an attendance of 15, whereas only five participants had been anticipated for the meeting. He further commented that this meeting had responded enthusiastically to the material put out by the District and that they had primarily gathered because they had wanted to move on unemployment. He referred to a situation in Chicago wherein there was over 4,000 circulation amongst the Poles (Polish people) in that area and commented that that would almost be 100 times more than the number of Poles in the Party. He referred to the number of Hungarians amongst the miners and steel workers who had been neglected for approximately one and one half years during the height of the Mc Carthyite period.

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During the course of DENNIS' remarks, an unknown male asked him if the Committee would replace the present Board, to which DENNIS replied that the comrades, themselves, will decide if they desire to enlarge the Board.

BOB THOMPSON advocated that GENE (DENNIS) should be made Secretary of the Committee, adding that he thought more time was needed to find the best possible solution to designating organizational secretary responsibilities.

JACK STACHEL remarked that ELIZABETH's (GURLEY FLYNN's) office (Editor in Chief of "The Worker") could not be announced.

The informant advised that at this time a general discussion was had concerning the possibility of additional members being added to the National Executive Committee, and also concerning whether or not formal announcements should be made.

During this discussion, STACHEL (JACK) commented upon the fact that they did not have a full time organizer in the New England States District, describing that area as one of the most important districts. STACHEL cited the need for comrades who could actually perform organization work and referred to ROBERTS (ph.) as one of the best organizers. STACHEL then discussed the importance of the position of the organizational secretary and the necessity of having everyone assist him, describing the need for a comrade for that job who could think politically. STACHEL stated that in his opinion New York City should have 5,000 members.

Informant advised that the meeting ended with no action taken on specific recommendations, but with the decision that they would meet again on the following week.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - United States Government

TO: Director, FBI

DATE: MAR 24 1958

FROM: SAC, Buffalo (100-4379-69)

SUBJECT: CP, USA
New York District and
Illinois District
ORGANIZATION
IS-C

3 - Bureau (RM)

43 - New York (RM)

- (1 - CP ORGANIZATION)
- (1 - CP MEMBERSHIP)
- (1 - FACTIONALISM, CP, USA)
- (1 - FACTIONALISM, CP,
NEW YORK DIVISION)
- (1 - NEGRO QUESTION)
- (1 - UNDERGROUND, CP, USA)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - CARL WINTER)
- (1 - MORRIS CHILDS)
- (1 - UNSUB, - COMINAS (ph))
- (1 - UNSUB, - BENSON (ph))
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - UNSUB, SISTER OF
[REDACTED])
- (1 - LIL GATES)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - JOHN GATES)
- (1 - BOB THOMPSON)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - UNSUB; PABLO (ph))
- (1 - UNSUB, LARUDA (ph))
- (1 - WILLIAM PATTERSON)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED] (ph))
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - SID STEIN)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - PAUL ROBESON)

- (1 - JAMES JACKSON)
- (1 - EUGENE DENNIS)
- (1 - BEN DAVIS)
- (1 - WILLIAM ALBERTSON)
- (1 - [REDACTED] ph))
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - UNSUB, HUSBAND OF
[REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED] ph))

12 - Chicago (RM)

- (1 - CP MEMBERSHIP)
- (1 - CP FACTIONALISM)
- (1 - CP NEGRO QUESTION)
- (1 - HERP PROGRAM)
- (1 - 100-24702, [REDACTED])
- (1 - CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
- (1 - MORRIS CHILDS)
- (1 - WASHINGTON PARK FORUM)
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - UNSUB, LUCILLE,
CP MEMBER)
- (1 - UNSUB, WILLARD,
CP MEMBER)

- 1 - Indianapolis (HERP PROGRAM)RM
- 1 - Detroit (CARL WINTER) (RM)
- 3 - Cleveland (RM)

- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - [REDACTED])
- (1 - ANTHONY KRCHMAREK)

18 - Buffalo

- (1 - 100-4379-68,
CP MEMBERSHIP)

100-80638-1432

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 29 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

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b7C

BU 100-4379-69

(1 - 100-4379-88, CP FACTIONALISM)
(1 - 100-4379-75, CP NEGRO QUESTION)
(1 - 100-4379-94, CP UNDERGROUND)
(1 - 100-6077, JONNIE ELLIS)
(1 - 100-10454, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-10456, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-7708, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-10480, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-1377, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-1164, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-6721, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-10015, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-9969, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-10005, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-11933, [REDACTED])
(1 - 100-10450, [REDACTED])

GJL:jod
(81)

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b7C

On 3/6/58, [] furnished some of the details of a conversation held on that date between JONNIE ELLIS who was visiting in Buffalo for a few days, having come from her home in Chicago, and [] who is described by the source as the [] of the Erie County CP. This conversation which was 3½ hours in length, is difficult to synopsise and in many places is almost incoherent, but since it provides a number of items which seem to be of significance and the import of which may be more recognizable by those familiar with the CP situation in New York and Chicago, the more important points are being set out.

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As the conversation began, ELLIS was apparently talking of the approximate 1953-1955 period when she was in New York City during which time she ran into severe factional trouble in that city. She first mentioned that [] (ph) was the National Bookkeeper for the Underground and that ELLIS had stayed with her for three days. ELLIS mentioned that [] (ph) maintained a book.

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ELLIS then mentioned [] but this portion of the conversation could not be overheard. She then mentioned that an un-named woman, presumably [] had given [] wife \$5500. in bail for him and that she will not get it back. ELLIS then said that CARL WINTER borrowed from MORRIS CHILDS "over 692 reports and on the day she left she just had MORRIS CHILDS and CARL WINTER and gave the financial report." ELLIS then apparently referred to a past situation in which [] wife had claimed not to have received any money. No further details concerning this are clear but in this connection, ELLIS then said that later [] (ph) got up and talked soshe was ready to get out of the Party.....and [] (ph) and [] (ph) were ready to get out."

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ELLIS then said that [] had told people that she, ELLIS, was administering dope to a group of comrades in Harlem. ELLIS said that after hearing this, she had gone to [] sister who upon hearing [] story, had started to cry, saying that "they're not only deteriorating as Communists but as human beings." ELLIS then castigated [], saying that if he would have been in power in 1953 - 1955, he would have hung her. At this point, ELLIS seemed to go off on a tangent by mentioning that LIL GATES had a job demonstrating for some IBM Company and made \$100. an hour. [] refused to believe this, saying that this kind of money was paid only in the movies but ELLIS maintained that it was true and that it involved some type of an automobile show in Chicago where they paid the girls \$80. an hour. In this connection,

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she mentioned that DICK - and LAWRENCE - had gone there and had applied. Returning to a lambasting of [] ELLIS said that she had been surprised over his actions. Both ELLIS and SCHEER then wondered as to who might have provided [] with his information. b6 b7C

ELLIS began talking abruptly of someone she suspected of having furnished information to the FBI. She said "I saw him at 6:00 O'Clock in the morning and I'm looking at him and he's with the FBI butso I went to [] and I was in tears and I was in the Underground and I made it my business to go to [] WATT and to tell him." [] then asked whether [] had believed her and she replied that he had not. She continued "What would I make up stories for.....I'm looking at the (obscene) going into City College at 6:30 in the morning and come out with these two guys.....you know really I mean.....every time I looked at him I could see a blue uniform with the 8 buttons and he was so..... LIL GATES was the sole judge of whether they were right or wrong.... I said how can you even listen to them, ask him." [] then apparently referring to this individual suspected by ELLIS, said that he remembered what this man had said at a State Committee meeting. This man, according to [], had tossed out morality and had lost all Communist perspective. ELLIS returned to talking of this person and said "I'm talking to him and LIL GATES..... you see he, LIL GATES and [] were supposed to be the people who were supposed to handle the Harlem situation." [] raised a question about [] said that [] was out and she mentioned something about \$5000. She also said that [] was a dope addict and that the people in Harlem also claimed that he was a dope addict and that he was supposed to have had a nervous breakdown. b6 b7C

Then ELLIS apparently began to talk of a charge which had been made in New York against her and she told [] that on some of the points, the people had told the truth. She then began talking of the charge that she had drawn a knife against someone but she interrupted herself to mention that her mother [] (of Buffalo) had come to see FOSTER at her request. She also mentioned that [] had come to see FOSTER, apparently to discuss earlier charges leveled against JONNIE ELLIS but that FOSTER would not see either one and wouldn't even let them in the door. ELLIS said that when this happened, she had gone to a meeting on the 14th floor and []from Syracuse had to get a new statement so [] came in "to tell me that I have been removed from the State Committee....now out of the three years I had only met with the State Committee once....so I was standing looking out the window and....looked around and said it would be an awful long way to fall wouldn't it, so I fold my arms and I turn around b6 b7C

to him and he said.....who's big enough to push me...I walked over to the couch and sat down and I took out myso he says to me what are you going to do with that knife...the next thing I had drawn a knife at a National Committee member." Nothing further can be extracted from this portion of the conversation.

The next portion of the conversation may revert to that set out above concerning ELLIS's suspicions of someone who had gone to the FBI and it is being quoted verbatim:

ELLIS: "What am I going to do....the meeting with..... and [redacted] (ph)LIL GATES comes to so (ELLIS whispers)LIL GATES is my wife and I love her and I said when did you see me. I says but why, LIL's....the National.....in prison withand he walked down that Gate Road and I've been thinking everybody would love it. This was just after they had arrested BOB THOMPSON, you know, with [redacted] So we go back to the meeting and JOHN says: Well, I think we ought to discuss that fact that LIL GATES went throughwe go down and see JOHNNY with permission of the National Committee.....come to the meeting so [redacted] takes the daily news and starts to read the editorial....Now that BOB THOMPSON has been arrested, are the Communists trying to destroy themselves....so I say: Well, I'd like to know how it is that PABLO- and LARUDA (ph) in Cuba with 12 (obscene) years with half the people and half the damn territory and then you get him....how come they caught him....how come in July we get a report in the New York Times that the head of the FBI flew from New York to California and six weeks later, they find BOB THOMPSON there in a cabin." ELLIS continued that she had gotten into a violent discussion with JOHNNY who seemed to defend LIL GATES. ELLIS then said that all the FBI had had to do was to surveil LIL GATES from the prison to the station, then to the airport and to Los Angeles.

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ELLIS then said that [redacted] had discussed it at that same meeting. She then referred to a man and woman, the latter named BEA -, and apparently speaking of the Underground period, said that it had been a big joke concerning the fact that [redacted] would not surrender her baby grand piano and that the problem was that it was necessary to try to sneak this into their house and they had to take off the window ledges to do so. ELLIS then said that [redacted] (ph) was in some way involved in the decision that JOHNNIE ELLIS should not be in any club in Chicago. She then said that after working on the TILL case, etc., she was elected from her Section Convention at the State Convention. ELLIS then launched into a bitter denunciation she claims to have made at this State Convention, apparently of GENE DENNIS, who was in attendance.

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As this portion can be best understood, ELLIS seems to have ridiculed DENNIS for an incorrect approach to the problems of Chauvinism as well as for having failed to keep abreast of the CP Line during his years in prison. ELLIS then ridiculed statements which DENNIS made concerning what the stand of the CP, USA should be and quotes herself as saying "You've been in jail for five yearsall of a sudden you know what Americans road to Socialism is.... you don't get us there, you don't tell us anything that makes it any closer.... the best thing you can do is to say to me that the City Hall is in that general direction and maybe I can find the street that goes to it since you don't know the street see." ELLIS continued in this vein and then mentioned that at that State Convention she had received the highest vote and the third highest vote to the National Convention. She then said that MORRIS CHILDS who had not been elected to the State Convention, had to be elected to the National. Then apparently referring to CHILDS, ELLIS launched into a denunciation of him concerning his apparent misunderstanding of Chauvinism. She indicated that CHILDS had spoken at some convention in the presence of CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT and WILLIAM PATTERSON and had blasted the Party concerning acts of Chauvinism, whereupon ELLIS said that she made an attack on the floor because CHILDS misunderstood Chauvinism.

[redacted] then diverted ELLIS into a discussion of past years when she was a CP Functionary in Buffalo and there was a general discussion as to whether ELLIS had made any mistakes concerning Chauvinism while here. ELLIS referred to a CP member active in past years in the Buffalo area, named [redacted] and maintained that she had handled him properly, recognizing the fact that he had been a steel worker for 23 years and a member of the State Committee for 13 years. [redacted] then bickered over whether [redacted] should have been removed from the shop to do full-time CP work and they also speculated as to whether [redacted] had taken the correct course in leaving the steel industry. ELLIS then went into considerable detail concerning the fact that her listener, [redacted], had received the benefit of her guidance, especially in his relationship with [redacted] (probably [redacted] a sister-in-law of ELLIS's) and the negro community. ELLIS then mentioned, in connection with the time when [redacted] had become a full-time CP worker in Buffalo, that he had been the only negro pulled out of the shop throughout the entire Party, and in this connection she said [redacted] walked away from the Party with \$250,000. which certainly would have paid for [redacted]

Apparently then referring to the period when she left Buffalo to go to New York, [redacted] said "I go to Harlem.....they had

26 in the railroad....200 and some negro cadres and they had 22 full timers and aunt [] (ph)....he was crying because we couldn't get \$200. for steel concentration....and I had the nerve to protest." ELLIS then told [] that the Party could well have paid for the services of [] and [] and that after she insisted. so ".... some of them wanted to kill me...." She told [] to check with [] concerning this if he didn't believe her and said that she was referring to the period before [] "came out from under there." She then told the story about [] who was apparently the treasurer of an Underground Unit, having given [] a sum of money. Two years later, [] was brought up on charges because he had given [] \$200. too much. [] maintained that this was a frame-up and that she had told [] so. She then said that three weeks later, when [] was removed as Treasurer, [] had come to her and had offered her \$180. to get out of town. ELLIS then continued to talk in a fashion not at all clear of having met [] at a National Convention when both were apparently under fire. Apparently both individuals were being questioned concerning their knowledge of the CP in the Buffalo area and ELLIS advised [] to say nothing. As this portion of the conversation ended, ELLIS recalled when [] (ph) was chairman of the New York County and [] was the treasurer. ELLIS then mumbled that she wondered where [] who had maintained that she owned only one dress and a pair of \$2.98 shoes, could have spent all of the money. b6 b7C

After a short break, ELLIS and [] resumed their discussion and apparently the talk now swung to Chicago. ELLIS said that "in Colvin (ph) which is the largest....Party membership among the negroes, they got 80 and in Moreland (ph) we got 123 except we recruited about (conversation blanketed)." b6 b7C

ELLIS then went into a long recital as to how she attempted to act when she was transferred to Illinois. She claimed that she went out of her way never to attack anybody and in fact tried never to see anybody since she did not want to be criticized again for being destructive. She said that she worked in the south side negro community and that she has classes and that she is the co-chairman of the Washington Park forum and that she teaches Marxism at these classes. ELLIS then talked about how she diverted Trotskyite attacks at the Washington Park Forum and she said "Now I work for....we built the Party....we recruited young guys... this week I had a meeting of 1500 guys." ELLIS then whispered about a caucus meeting which had preceded one of these big meetings. She then talked about organizing a meeting at Calumet Park at which 7000 people were present and for which she had served on the

committee of 100 which she characterized as a "nice respectable group." Apparently in connection with this meeting in Calumet Park, which dealt in some way with segregation, ELLIS stated that she had taken four days off from work and had spent her entire time contacting negro professionals, preachers, people with the NAACP, the UAW, the packing house workers, and all "these wheels like [redacted] and so on."

b6
b7C

ELLIS then told of a quarrel which she got into with CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT concerning this matter at a special State Committee meeting. LIGHTFOOT tried to persuade ELLIS that she had the wrong concept concerning Chauvinism and the police because the police had hit one of her brothers. ELLIS then launched into an obscene tirade in which she said she told LIGHTFOOT "let me see you go out there in that park and talk to 750 negroes and tell them why you don't think you should attack them. We've got the..... to attack the police eight days straight. The Crusader is attacking the police, they did it so well until every newspaper in Chicago has written an editorial against the police and the Party is the only one fighting the police...."

[redacted] then bickered as to whether EUGENE A. DENNIS's resolution had been unanimously accepted and spent several minutes distinguishing between DENNIS's report and DENNIS's resolution. In this connection, ELLIS said that she had been at [redacted] house (probably [redacted]) and she heard about the DENNIS resolution. She then said that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, SID STEIN, and BEN FINE had gone to the south side to prove that the Party maintained that left sectarianism was still the principle danger. ELLIS then criticized both the right and left positions, maintaining that it all was working out since "they agreed on a distribution of the spoils....where the left was stronger, the right resigned and where the right was stronger, the left resigned." [redacted] interrupted her to ask whether LOU DISKIN was still around and ELLIS said that he was and which ever side wins is all right with LOU. ELLIS then talked of a State Committee meeting held in Chicago, apparently in February of 1958, and in this connection, mentioned that someone named FRANK - who is a member of the State Committee, is deliberately being frozen out of attending such meetings due to last minute changes in meeting places and dates.

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Still speaking in connection with this Illinois State Committee meeting, ELLIS said that CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT) had told her that her attendance was desired because JIM (context indicates may be JIM JACKSON) was going to be there to discuss the negro question. ELLIS then launched into a recital of what she had told CLAUDE, which may be synopsisized in this quotation of hers:

"I mean I'm going to tear the house down because I know the majority of the negro comrades in the Party do not believe that Left Sectarianism is the main danger in relation to negro work and I'll tear the house down and I'll invite anybody who will debate it to discuss it." ELLIS then talked of the fact that in her history of Party activity, she felt that she had never wandered far from the majority viewpoint and she had never felt isolated. She then described a bitter argument she had had with JIM JACKSON over the fact that JACKSON failed to grant her credit for the contributions she had made in developing influence among negroes in the CP.

Shortly thereafter ELLIS mentioned that she planned to return to Buffalo in April of 1958 and the context is not completely clear as to whether she was merely referring to a visit or to a permanent return to Buffalo. She then made some reference to having been in New York for 13 days and mentioned that in New York and Harlem they have 80 members. JONNIE, still speaking of New York, said that she had been to ROBESON's house and that he had been at the meeting and then apparently quoting ROBESON, ELLIS said "I can not talk to you until you leave the house.... so I said to him but you can't talk to me....I'll call you when I get back to Chicago and when I came back it was a terrific thing. I said didn't you discuss it with somebody else and he said they're not going to discuss it....but I told him...." ELLIS then seemed to refer to both JIM JACKSON and CLAUDE (LIGHTFOOT) and mentioned that the negroes "hate him," context not clear as to whether she was referring to JACKSON or LIGHTFOOT.

Then ELLIS branched off into a garbled recital of a trip she had made to Indianapolis, Indiana in connection with Hungarian Refugees. ELLIS said "....Well I just come back from Indianapolis, Indiana where I met Jews that came from Hungary.... and we had to discuss with them because they had all kinds of problems you see....we got this interpreter and....so we asked them you know, what had happened in Hungary....now these people who don't know from nothing....like they don't know that they're in the United States which is a fascist country, they think they're in the United States and it is a glorious democratic place." The next portion of this conversation could not be understood but then ELLIS began to speak of a committee (probably American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born) which was in some way involved with these Hungarian refugees. After speaking of several refugees, two of whom were apparently to be deported because of insanity, ELLIS said "....Well we've been responsible for them leaving and the Immigration authority called me and they were supposed to come into town and give the papers....to get them out to give

them a job but they....supposed to join a union....so we were discussing it and now we had a big fight in the Committee because they don't want to protect these Hungarians who ran away and we were in big business....I go to Indianapolis where the guy from the Immigration authority is going to question these people to find out exactly what happened....."

ELLIS then said that after this visit to Indianapolis, she had gone to the forum in Calumet Park where she had insisted on being heard after Trotskyite speakers had attacked the Soviet action in the Hungarian revolt. ELLIS claimed to have made a dynamic speech in which she justified Soviet Intervention in Hungary.

At this juncture, there was an approximate 20 minute interruption in the conversation and when it was resumed near the source, ELLIS was in the midst of telling SCHEER about a meeting which she had attended in Chicago at which JOHN GATES and BOB THOMPSON had been present. ELLIS said that she had gone there with eight Mexicans, the oldest of whom was 22. She then made a reference which is not clear, to a meeting on the 9th of February, over a Greek restaurant and in this connection, she mentioned a man named JOHN BAHARUS (ph), who is an exchange student from Greece and who comes from the University of Wisconsin. There was again an interruption in the conversation and somewhat later, [redacted] who had not previously taken an active part in this discussion, asked ELLIS how [redacted] (probably [redacted] subjects of the Cleveland Office) now felt about factionalism in the Party. This portion of the conversation was brief and not clear but in connection with it, the name of KRCHMAREK (probably ANTHONY KRCHMAREK) was mentioned and after being asked whether there was any type of Party organization there and whether "they didn't feel like going after somebody," ELLIS replied that she guessed that they continue to fight there.

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[redacted] then asked ELLIS how many full-timers were left in the State and she maintained that there were more than [redacted] realized. She mentioned that there were BEN DAVIS, [redacted] BILL ALBERTSON, [redacted] and JAMES JACKSON. [redacted] objected that he thought that JACKSON had gone to the south but ELLIS said that JACKSON continues to live in New York and just "meets with a portion of southern refugees." She continued listing full-timers by mentioning the name of [redacted] and also a [redacted] (ph) and ELLIS then said "[redacted] (ph) husband is a full-timer in Bedford. He's got 12 members and he's got a brand new car....the membership is paying for it."

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Still cataloguing full-timers, ELLIS mentioned [] and said that he is full-time in Harlem and [] is full-time in Harlem and that [] (ph) is part-time in Harlem. SCHEER then asked ELLIS how the situation was in Chicago (apparently speaking of registration) and ELLIS responded that "I think we recruited enough to balance." She then mentioned that "on the south side we got 123, last year we registered 82." [] then asked her how the CP situation generally was in Chicago and ELLIS said "in the Industrial Section they increased the only two sections they recruited....it was the Industrial Section and our section....that the Plant (ph) Division and the south side...." [] then murmured that it was unusual to hear about people joining these days and ELLIS replied "I tell you she had to turn down two people the week before I left. One was a student, part Mexican, who comes from Texas. (ELLIS whispers) she wanted to know if she could join the Party. [] told her no because she had to know more about it and.....a negro woman who came to the forum asked....and WILLARD told her you couldn't just join the Party like that see...."

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ELLIS then said that she has been under fire since being in Chicago for having a chip on her shoulder but she shrugs these attacks off because of the importance of what she is fighting for. She said that her section which she described as "the most vehement" was the only section which had exceeded its quota in connection with subscriptions to the "Worker." The section had a quota of 70 but actually sold 100 subscriptions. She said that "we criticized the people and sent in all kinds of letters but when it comes to the question of standards, we'll depart from the point of view. We were supposed to raise \$75.00 in the fund drive in my section and we had a party at my house and raised 92 for the fund drive and I deliberately did that so that you couldn't say you don't agree with this and you don't agree with that....you can not say that we are not fighting for the Party."

After some desultory discussion about leaflet designation in Chicago and Buffalo, [] mentioned that the big problem was how the Party could break out and ELLIS replied that that was why she wanted [] to try to get 200 guys to organize an unemployed council here. [] replied that this was under discussion in the CP in Buffalo and ELLIS mentioned that she had discussed it with her young brother and with [] (probably [] who apparently are trying to get some groups together. The two then lamented the fact that on this Buffalo visit, JONNIE was not able to meet with [] the Erie County CP Organizer). ELLIS then again spoke of her activity in the

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BU 100-4379-69

Washington Park Forum and in this connection, mentioned the attacks made at that forum by Trotskyites among the Hungarian refugees. ELLIS then spoke of Chicago being a "Jim Crow" city and mentioned an alleged incident in which she had seen a police officer arrest a negro and slap his face. She had challenged the police officer to furnish her with his badge number which he would not give to her. Thereafter, ELLIS said she had gotten the police officer's license number and had called "The Crusader." She then said in part "...When these Russians came here and interviewed us, I got a short white raincoat....worked in Chicago.....so that night....ride out to Calumet Park," balance of context not clear.

As the conversation ended, ELLIS was telling that in April there would be a pageant on Shakespeare and ROBESON was coming to Chicago on April 4, and April 5, and would be presented with a scroll signed "by her Majesty the Queen."

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b7C

All of above for information.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-26603)

DATE:

MAR 31 1958

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (100-4049)

SUBJECT : COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEW YORK DISTRICT
IS-C

IN USING ANY OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, EXTREME CARE SHOULD BE UTILIZED TO PREVENT COMPROMISING THE INFORMANT.

22-New York-(Info.) (REGISTERED MAIL)

100-26603 CP, USA

100- COMINFIL INTO THE IUE

100- "POLITICAL AFFAIRS"

100-80638 CP-MEMBERSHIP

100- LYL

100-80641 ORGANIZATION

100-89590 CP STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY

100- CP LINE

100-

100-

100-

100-

100-

100-

100-

100-

100-

HARRY (LNU); age 35, white, male,
Brooklyn

100-

100-

100-

100-

ELY (LNU); age 25, white, male,
vegetarian, Bronx address, telephone
number OL 5-3774

100-

100-

7-Newark (100-4049)

100-4284-E ORGANIZATION

100-4284-D MEMBERSHIP

100-37012 COMINFIL INTO THE IUE

100-4284-KK CP LINE

100-35535 JAMES PATTERSON

100-

RFH:emt (29)

100-80638-1433

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 2 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

NK 100-4049

Source: [redacted]

Reliability: Has furnished reliable information in the past.

Date of Activity: as shown.

Date Received: 3/17/58

Agents To Whom Furnished:

SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]

Location: [redacted]

b6
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b7D

Informant furnished the following written report which is set forth in its entirety. It can be located in [redacted]

"The formation of an IUE Division by the Brooklyn Communist Party was heralded by two articles in the official party magazine 'Political Affairs' in the issues for April and May of 1952. These articles were entitled 'Some Problems of Work in Right-Led Unions, I and II,' by John Swift. The same John Swift wrote three other articles which elaborated the CP position on work in 'Right-Led' unions, 'The Left-Led Unions and Labor Unity, I and II', and 'The Ford Local Union Election.' A few quotes from these articles reveal quite effectively the CP position. It is noted that the 'left-wing unions' lost ground to the Right-wing because of 'the failure to struggle consciously for the minds of the workers...' The Ford Local 600 election proved, 'that is possible to establish and consolidate progressive-led coalitions within Right-wing led unions despite all attempts of the reactionary officialdom to dislodge or destroy them.' 'At this stage the most important thing is that the Communist workers... through their Party organization.. understand the need for winning the workers, from below...' 'The main problem is precisely that of finding the forms of transition.. to the formation of coalitions including progressive and Left-wing workers..the concrete ways and means by which to change the situation in local by local and union by union.'

Party leaders - [redacted] and [redacted] reported to [redacted] the recent formation of a Brooklyn CP IUE division in the fall of 1952. A. B. was assigned to this division and instructed to report to George Elwood. It was suggested that A.B. organize an IUE shop club consisting of Party members employed by the Hammarlund Mfg. Co. on 34th Street, N.Y.C. (A.B. was also employed there.) [redacted] suggested to A.B. that she contact the following Party members:

b6
b7C

[redacted] about 25, white, male, [redacted] St., Manh.

[redacted], mother of [redacted]

[redacted] a former member who refused to rejoin [redacted] St., Bklyn.)

[redacted] about 35, white, male, [redacted] Pl., Bronx 52, N. Y. (formerly worked for G. E. Upstate N.Y.)

At the same time A.B. was instructed to form an LYL club in the same shop and told to contact the following LYL members:

Harry ? - about 35, white male, [redacted], Bklyn., in charge of LYL IUE shop clubs.

[redacted] about 25, white, female, [redacted] Street, Manhattan. A.B. thought (and thinks!) her to be immoral and irresponsible and recommended that the Party refuse her membership.

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b7C

[redacted] about 35, white, male, [redacted] Street, N.Y.C., apt. 3C, formerly with Party and League groups in Pennsylvania.

[redacted] about 30, Negro, male, [redacted] Street. W.B. was not interested in being part of LYL club, attended 2 or 3 meetings and quit.

[redacted], about 25, white, male, vegetarian! Bnx address, phone OL 5-3774, attended League meetings.

b6
b7C

As club president, A.B. met with other club presidents in the IUE division, which included [redacted] and [redacted] about 30, Negro, male, Bklyn., phone

NK 100-4049

PR 2-4631, formally quit the CP in 1953. A.B. has seen him socially since, he has disavowed any interest in or sympathy for the Party. K.W. may well be contacted for information about the CP.

As part of IUE division function, a party class was organized to study all phases of Marxism in an intensive effort covering a period of about two months. A.B. was sent to [redacted], white, male, about 35, [redacted], Bklyn., NI 5-6746, for purpose of joining this group. A.B. recalled one other student of this group:

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b7C

[redacted] white, male, about 25, [redacted] Street, Bklyn.

As recently as December, 1957, party leaders in New Jersey reported to A.B. that the current strength of the Party lies in shop clubs of form and function referred to above. These are the most 'security conscious' groups in the CP and most often have no connection with local community groups. When Party people from these groups win positions in the union, they formally sever ties with the CP but maintain effective CP membership by secretive relationships with 'high' trusted Party leaders."

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-4) DATE: 4/10/58

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-80638)

SUBJECT: CP, USA MEMBERSHIP
NEW YORK DISTRICT
IS-C

ReNYlet, 2/7/58.

Outlined below are the revisions to the list of active CP members in the NY Division which is embodied in reNYlet.

It is recommended that the revisions be set out in the bimonthly progress letters in this manner and that the next complete listing of the entire membership in one letter be submitted as of 2/1/59.

Note

Enclosed is a Table of Contents for relet, which has been numbered 2a so that it may be inserted therein.

A review of relet reflects that on page 2 the number of members identified in item (2) should be 1705, and the number tentatively identified in item (3) should be 201. It is requested that these changes be made in the Bureau copies. NYO copies are being revised accordingly.

*Pls
revise
see county
files listed below
for current lists*

- 2 - Bureau (100-3-4) (Encl. 2)
- 1 - New York (100-26603) (NY STATE CP) (ENCL. 1.)
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C40) (BRONX) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C41) (QUEENS) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C42) (NEW YORK) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C43) (KINGS) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C44) (WESTCHESTER) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C45) (NASSAU) "
- 1 - New York (100-26603-C39) (RICHMOND) "
- 1 - New York (100-132430) (INDUSTRIAL DIVISION) (ENCL. 1)
- ① - New York (100-80638) (ENCL. 1)

RCB:RCM
(22)

TSM

rel

Destroyed

rel

1-12-0 DECK
1-12-10
1-12-11
1-12-12
1-12-13
(1-12-14)
1-12-15

1-19-2 DECK
1-1-4
Destroyed 9/14/58 rel
9/3/59
rel

p. 2A inserted 4/15/58 - see ser. 1375. Jcp

Destroyed 3/23/60 rel

100-80638-1434

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 13 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

JVW

NY 100-80638

As of 4/1/58, over-all statistics are as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| (1) | Estimated number of CP members | 3008 |
| (2) | Number of members identified since last progress letter. | 80 |
| (3) | Number of members identified to date. | 1766 - |
| (4) | Number tentatively identified as CP members since last progress report. | 23 |
| (5) | Number tentatively identified as CP members to date. | 201 - |

The estimated number of CP members, 3008, was arrived at after evaluating information furnished from various informants and sources. The basis for this estimate is being set forth in detail in the current quarterly report due in the Bureau by 4/20/58.

NY 100-80638

The necessary revisions are hereinafter outlined:

Page 3

Under State Staff

Delete: CHARNEY, GEORGE BLAKE

[REDACTED]
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM
BLUMBERG, ALBERT

Add: [REDACTED] Acting State Treasurer

Position Change: ALBERTSON, WILLIAM, State Secretary

b6
b7C

Under State Board

Delete: CHARNEY, GEORGE BLAKE
GATNER, MORRIS
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM

[REDACTED]
WEISS, MAX

Page 4-6

Under State Committee

Delete: CHARNEY, GEORGE BLAKE

[REDACTED]
LAWRENCE, WILLIAM

[REDACTED]
WEISS, MAX

Add:

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Change:

[Redacted]

Page 7

BRONX COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY

b6
b7C

Under County Staff

Delete:

[Redacted]

Educational Director

(This position has been replaced by the
Bronx County Education Committee, below)

Under General Committee Members

Delete:

[Redacted]

Add:

[Redacted]

(Newark is origin)

[Redacted]

100-120473
NY 100-87977

100-128796
100-133481

b6
b7C

At the bottom of Page 7 add the following:

Bronx County Educational Committee

[Redacted]

(above)

100-106044
100-106964

NY 100-80638

Page 9

Under Membership

Add: [] (T) 100-134415

Page 10

Change: [] 100-106852 to a positive identification. Delete (T).

Add: [] 100-104269
100-99795

b6
b7C

Page 11

Add: [] (T) 100-133682
100-4137

Page 12

Change: [] 100-111325 from a positive to a (T) identification.

Page 13

Under Northwest Section

Add: [] 100-83215
100-60933

Page 14

Delete: []

b6
b7C

Page 15

Under Northeast Section

Change: [] 100-23773 to a positive identification. Delete (T).

b6
b7C

Add: [] (T) 100-132678

NY 100-80638

Page 16

Add:

100-82157
100-18056
100-114205

Page 17

Under Section Committee

Delete:

Under Membership

Add:

100-131690

b6
b7C

Page 19

Delete:

(above)

Page 20

Delete:

Page 22

Delete:

Page 23

Under Hungarian Section

Add heading Leadership and under leadership
add the name of 100-87977.

Delete the words (Section Organizer) following

Add name under the Membership
of this section.

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 24

Under Membership of the Southwest Section

Add:

100-55159

Page 25

Delete:

Page 26

Delete:

Add:

100-64068

Page 27

Delete:

Change:

100-93484,
to a positive identification. Delete (T).

Add:

100-86203
100-112920
100-69927

Page 28

Add:

(T)
(T)

100-122265
100-125756

Delete:

NY 100-80638

Page 29

Delete: [REDACTED]

As of 3/19/58, the Prospect Section, although a very small Section, was again functioning. On the bottom half of the page add as follows:

Prospect Section

Leadership

[REDACTED]

100-120473

Membership

[REDACTED]

above)

100-95293
100-101737
100-101085
100-58063

KINGS COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY

Page 32

Under Bedford-Stuyvesant Section (6th AD)

Remove "(T)" after [REDACTED]

100-110783

Page 34

Delete: [REDACTED]

Page 35

Under Borough Hall-Waterfront Section, Club Unknown

Add: [REDACTED]

100-71199

Under Williamsburg Section

Change: [REDACTED]

NY 100-80638

Page 36

Under Professional Section, Club Unknown

Delete: "(T)" after [REDACTED]

Page 37

Under Bath Beach Section

Add: [REDACTED] 100-65572

b6
b7C

Page 38

Under Brighton Beach Section

Add: [REDACTED] 100-63240

Page 41

Under Section and Club Unknown

Add: [REDACTED] 100-110888

Page 42

Under Section and Club Unknown

Delete: "(T)" after:

[REDACTED]

Delete: [REDACTED] (T)

Add: [REDACTED] 100-117665

Page 43

Delete: "(T)" after [REDACTED]

Add: [REDACTED] 100-129648

NY 100-80638

Page 44

Delete: [REDACTED] (T) 100-65572

Page 45

Add: [REDACTED] 100-102633
105-3323
100-66200

Delete: [REDACTED]

Add: [REDACTED] 100-128445

Page 46

Delete: [REDACTED] (T)

Add: [REDACTED] 100-64070

Page 47

Delete: [REDACTED]

Add: [REDACTED] 100-90467
100-130682

Page 48

Add: [REDACTED] 100-113232

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 49

Add:

100-14096
100-134152

Page 50

Add:

100-132885
100-106906
100-132739
100-132740

Page 51

Add:

100-66657
100-112231

b6
b7C

Page 52

Add:

100-133461
100-133460

Page 54

Add:

100-100532

NY 100-80638

Page 54

Add: "(above)" after [redacted]

Delete: "(T)" after:
[redacted]

b6
b7C

From:

QUEENS COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY

Page 56-57

Under County Officers

Delete: [redacted] Organizational Secretary
[redacted] Membership Director

Add: [redacted] 100-95636
Organizational Secretary

Change: [redacted] (above),
Temporary Membership and
Financial Director

b6
b7C

Under County Committee

Delete: [redacted]

Add:

100-65505
100-101473
100-55806
100-82868

NY 100-80638

Page 57

Under Area I

Sunnyside Section

Delete: [] (above), Joint Organizational
Secretary

Add: [] (above),
Membership and Financial Director

Revise: []
Organizational Secretary.
(Delete Joint).

b6
b7C

Club Unknown

Delete: [] (above)

Add: [] 100-65033
100-50849

Page 59

Under Area II

Corona Section

Delete: [] (above), Organizer

Add: [] (above), Organizer

b6
b7C

Page 61

Clearview Section

Add: [] (above), Organizer

NY 100-80638

Flushing-Bayside Section

Delete: [] (above), Organizer

Page 62

Under Kew Pomonok Section

Add:

[]

100-34067
100-60648

Page 66

b6
b7C

Under Area III

Jamaica Section

Add: [] (above), Membership
and Financial Director

Change: [] Assistant Membership 100-71535
and Financial Director

Add (Clubs):

Democratic Club

Members unknown.

Professional Club #4

Members unknown.

Page 67

Club Unknown

Change: [] (Delete "above"). 100-121261

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 69

Under Maspeth Section

Club Unknown

Delete:

Page 71

Under Section and Club Unknown

Add:

100-57216
100-125822

Page 72

NEW YORK COUNTY COMMUNIST PARTY

Under New York County Committee

Delete:

(All five listed
elsewhere as
CP members.)

There has been a general re-alignment in the composition of the NY County Committee during the first quarter of 1958. A "Left" factional dispute has led to an enlargement of the Committee participants. The exact number of Committee members is not known at the present time but includes, at least, those individuals presently listed.

Page 73

Under Russian Section

Add:

100-95097

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 76-77

Under Lower East Side-Forbes Section

Club Unknown

Add:

[REDACTED]
FLYNN, ELIZABETH GURLEY
[REDACTED]

100-68111
100-1696
100-80046
100-129659

b6
b7C

Page 79

Under Greenwich Village Section

Club #1

Add: JOHNSON, ARNOLD S.

100-16021

Club #2

Add:

[REDACTED] f)

100-69819
100-69821
100-82893

b6
b7C

Page 80

Under Club(s) Unknown

Delete: [REDACTED] (T)

Page 84

Delete: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

Page 85

Under Club(s) Unknown

Add:

[REDACTED]

100-109148
100-127430
100-127420

NY 100-80638

Page 87

Under C Club

[REDACTED] (Delete T).

Page 89

Delete: PETRAS. PAUL (T) (Deceased)

Delete: [REDACTED] (delete T)

Page 90

Under Parents Club

Add:

[REDACTED]

100-92822

Page 92

Delete: [REDACTED] (T)

Page 94

Delete: [REDACTED]

Page 95

Under Club Unknown

Delete "(T)" after following:

[REDACTED]

Add:

[REDACTED] (T)
(T)
(T)
(T)

100-92557
100-134886
100-91971
100-82966
100-124955

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 96

Under Club Unknown

Change:

Page 98

Delete:

b6
b7C

Page 99

Delete: DEAN, ALVAH CAESAR (Deceased)

FLYNN, ELIZABETH.

Page 101

Delete: JOHNSON, ARNOLD S.

Page 103

Add:

100-68362
100-109505

Delete: (T)

b6
b7C

Page 108

NASSAU COUNTY

Add:

100-130944

Page 109

Add:

100-122062
100-96923

Page 113

Under Westchester County CP

Add:

100-81844

NY 100-80638

Page 114

INDUSTRIAL DIVISION

Under Industrial Board

Add:

100-64662
100-109560
100-26018
100-9108

Delete:

b6
b7C

Page 115

Under Building Trades Region

Add:

100-26018

Page 116

Under Distributive Region

Add:

100-101389
100-134694
100-128684
100-134719
100-83917
100-134077
100-129750
100-89136
100-118882
100-94477
100-108985

b6
b7C

Page 118

Under Electric and Machine Region

Add:

(T)

100-61072

NY 100-80638

Page 119

Under Film and Arts Region

Add: (T)

100-107383

Under Food and Bakers Region

Add: (T)

100-87097

Page 120

Under Garment Region

Delete:

Add:

100-83308
100-65479
100-106914

Page 122

Under Railroad Region

Add:

100-123494
100-109560

Under Shoe, ACWA, Furniture Region

Add:

100-86017
100-123277
100-112800
100-66807
100-34196
100-13436
100-67344
100-76200
100-134859
100-58500
100-79785

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

NY 100-80638

Page 123

Under Regional Affiliation Unknown

Add:

100-126931
100-134503

Page 125

Delete:

(T)

b6
b7c

Add:

100-68723

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York

DATE: April 4, 1958

✓ FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

~~SECURITY MATTER~~[REDACTED]
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet 2-7-58 entitled "Communist Party, USA, Membership, New York District, Internal Security - C."

Relet lists [REDACTED] as members of the Williamsburg Section of the Kings County Communist Party (CP). On the basis of available data concerning [REDACTED], the files of this Bureau contain no information identifiable with these individuals.

You are requested to advise the Bureau of the current status of your investigations looking toward positive identification of the subjects and when the Bureau can expect reports in these cases.

Copies
100-92547
100-128417
97

100-80638-1435

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 7 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

12-11

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-422915)

4/8/58

SAC, NEW YORK (100-128417)

[REDACTED]
SM-C

[REDACTED]
SM-C

b6
b7C

ReBulet 4/4/58, captioned, [REDACTED]
SM-C; [REDACTED] SM-C".

ReBulet pointed out that the names in the preceding paragraph were listed as members of the Williamsburg Section of the Kings County CP in mylet 2/7/58 entitled, "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA, MEMBERSHIP, NEW YORK DISTRICT, INTERNAL SECURITY - C" (Bufile 100-3-4) and that the Bureau files contained no information identifiable with them.

For the Bureau's information, [REDACTED] is currently included in the Security Index (Bufile 100-422915). Her surname as listed in mylet of 2/7/58 should have been spelled [REDACTED].

b6
b7C

Moreover, [REDACTED] is currently included in the Security Index (Bufile 100-368030). His name is properly listed in mylet of 2/7/58.

New York copy has been corrected.

- 2 - Bureau (100-422915) (RM)
- 1 - Bureau (100-368030) (RM)
- 1 - New York (100-128417)
- 1 - New York (100-92547)
- 1 - New York (100-80638)

JJL:BHT
(6)

100-80638-1436
SEARCHED [] INDEXED []
SERIALIZED [] FILED []
APR 10 1958
FBI - NEW YORK
R.C. Burns
1 - 14

A I R T E L

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-63)
FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33741)
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
ORGANIZATION
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
C I N A L

DATE: 4/18/58

CG 5824-S*, on 4/16/58, made available to SA JOHN E. KEATING, for photostating, a five-page, mimeographed memorandum dated 4/14/58. This memorandum is on the letterhead of the Communist Party - USA, 23 West 26th Street, New York 10, New York. This memorandum provides a space so that the name of the recipient may be written in. This copy is addressed "Dear Morris". The informant advised that since the name of MORRIS CHILDS is mentioned in this memorandum, this copy was probably addressed to him. The memorandum is signed with the handwritten signature of ROBERT THOMPSON.

This memorandum is in the form of a farewell letter from THOMPSON, giving the recent developments in the Communist Party - USA. THOMPSON indicates that he contemplates returning to jail for seventeen months.

THOMPSON deals with unemployment, the economic situation, the Negro question, the banning of H-Bomb tests, the peace program, May Day meetings and Cuba, Indonesia, a summit conference, ROBESON's book "Here I Stand", the National Executive Committee meeting held on 3/28-29/58, the California electoral situation, "The Worker", Party registration, factionalism, Party organization, Party program, fund drive, and "Party Affairs".

Among the individuals mentioned by THOMPSON in this memorandum are JAMES ALLEN, HERBERT APTHEKER, ALEXANDER BITTELMAN, JOE CLARK, BEN DAVIS, EUGENE DENNIS, HOWARD FAST, JOHN GATES, HARRY HAYWOOD, JAMES JACKSON, ARNOLD JOHNSON, PAUL ROBESON, JACK STACHEL, JOE STAROBIN, [REDACTED] WILLIAM WEINSTONE, b6 b7C

See 1a and 1b pages for copies.

SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....
APR 20 1958
FBI - CHICAGO
100-80638-1437

CG 100-33741

- 5 - Bureau (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-3-104)(CP-USA, Counter-Intelligence Program)
 - (1 - 100-3-81)(CP-USA, International Relations)
- 3 - Cleveland (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-17257)(CP-USA, Organization)
 - (1 - 65-721)(ANTHONY KRCHMAREK)
 - (1 - 100-4212)(HYMAN LUMER)
- 3 - Detroit (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-2050)(CP-USA, Organization)
 - (1 - 100-13420)(CARL WINTER)
 - (1 - 100-13740)(HELEN WINTER)
- 1 - Los Angeles (100-26044)(CP-USA, Organization)(Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
- 34 - New York (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-81752)(CP-USA, Brief)(#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-129802)(CP-USA, Counter-Intelligence Program)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-88297)(CP-USA, Cultural Activities)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-89691)(CP-USA, Domestic Administration Issues)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-87211)(CP-USA, Factionalism)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-74560)(CP-USA, Funds)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-86624)(CP-USA, International Relations)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80638)(CP-USA, Membership)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-54651)(CP-USA, National Groups Commission)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80640)(CP-USA, Negro Question)(19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80641)(CP-USA, Organization)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-81675)(CP-USA, Pamphlets & Publications)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-79717)(CP-USA, Political Activities)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-89590)(CP-USA, Strategy in Industry)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-32826)(JAMES ALLEN)(#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-80532)(HERBERT APTHEKER)(#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-20128)(ALEXANDER BITTELMAN)(#7-4)
 - (1 - 100-14606)(JOSEPH CLARK)(#20-11)
 - (1 - 100-23825)(BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR.)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-8057)(EUGENE DENNIS)(#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-) (HOWARD FAST)
 - (1 - 100-17923)(JOHN GATES)

CG 100-33741

New York copies (continued)

(1 - 100-81495) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-16785) (JAMES JACKSON) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-16021) (ARNOLD JOHNSON) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-13203) (GEORGE MORRIS) (#7-2)
(1 - 100-84275) (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) (#19-2)
(1 - 100-25857) (PAUL ROBESON)
(1 - 100-18065) (JACK STACHEL) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-13480) (JOE STAROBIN) (#12-14)
(1 - 100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON) (#19-1)
(1 - 100-) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-26018) [REDACTED] (#12-10)
(1 - 100-9595) (WILLIAM WEINSTONE) (#19-1)

b6
b7c

2 - San Francisco (Encl. 1) (REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-27747) (CP-USA, Organization)
(1 - 65-1242) (MICKEY LIMA)

11 - Chicago

(1 - A/134-46)
(1 - 100-18963) (CP-USA, Illinois District, Factionalism)
(1 - 100-18953) (CP-USA, Illinois District, Organization)
(1 - 100-32864) (CP-USA, Counter-Intelligence Program)
(1 - 100-32207) (CINAL)
(1 - 100-3470) (MORRIS CHILDS)
(1 - 100-14652) [REDACTED]
(1 - 100-2748) (SAM KUSHNER)
(1 - 61-867) (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
(1 - 100-2749) [REDACTED]

JEK
JEK: kw
(59)

CG 100-33741

MORRIS CHILDS, [REDACTED] ANTHONY KRCHMAREK, SAM KUSHNER, CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, MICKEY LIMA, HYMAN LUMER, GEORGE MORRIS, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, [REDACTED] CARL WINTER, and HELEN WINTER.

b6
b7C

In connection with the Bureau's counter-intelligence program, it is to be noted that in listing factional activities in the Communist Party in paragraph #6 on page #3, THOMPSON states:

"The circulation of a vicious document slanderously charging the Soviet Union which having an anti-Semitic policy by a group of self-styled Communists."

It is believed that if this document is being disseminated in sufficient numbers by the National Office of the Communist Party - USA to protect CG 5824-S* then it has potential as a counter-intelligence vehicle in which to drive more Right wingers out of the Party. It may also have a similar affect upon the supporters of the ultra-Left. In this connection, specific reference is made to the following paragraph, which is the last paragraph on page #4:

"The Marxist-Leninist principle of democratic centralism upon which our Party is founded provides that elected committees shall have responsibility for leadership in given areas of the Party organization and for specific fields of Party work. At present we are beset with a number of little Napoleons who travel about the country and in total disregard of our Party Constitution and of Party procedures flaunt the jurisdiction and authority of these Party committees. I hope you under no circumstances will tolerate this in your area."

One photostat copy of this document is enclosed herewith to the Bureau, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco Divisions. The Chicago copy is located in Chicago file 100-33741-1B3 (39).

AUERBACH

O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M * * * U N I T E D S T A T E S G O V E R N M E N T

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33741)
 SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
 ORGANIZATION
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: 4-16-58

CG 5824-S*, on April 4, 1958, made available to SA JOHN E. KEATING, for photostating, a letter dated March 19, 1958, addressed "To the Members of the National Executive Committee", and signed by BOB THOMPSON.

The Chicago copy of this letter is located in Chicago file 100-33741-1B3 (37). The following is the complete text of this letter:

"It is proposed that the full meeting of the N.E.C. start at 1 o'clock Friday, March 28th, and run through Saturday. It might very well continue till around 8 o'clock Saturday, and this should be kept in mind in making reservations.

- 2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Detroit (100-13420) (CARL WINTER) (REGISTERED)
- 10 - New York (REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-87211) (CP-USA, Factionalism) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80638) (CP-USA, Membership) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-80641) (CP-USA, Organization) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-81675) (CP-USA, Pamphlets & Publications) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-79717) (CP-USA, Political Activities) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 100-89590) (CP-USA, Strategy in Industry) (#19-1)
 - (1 - 97-169) (Publishers New Press) (#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-13203) (GEORGE MORRIS) (#7-2)
 - (1 - 100-84275) (WILLIAM L. PATTERSON) (#19-2)
 - (1 - 100-27452) (ROBERT THOMPSON) (#19-1)
- 2 - San Francisco (REGISTERED)
 - (1 - 100-25347) (CP-USA, Political Activities)
 - (1 - 65-1242) (MICKEY LIMA)
- 2 - Chicago
 - (1 - A/134-46)

JEK:kw
 (17)

100-80638-1438

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 18 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

19

CG 100-33741

"The proposed agenda is as follows:

- "1. California elections -- Micky Lima reporting.
- "2. Problems posed by activities of ultra-Left groupings - Bob Thompson reporting.
- "3. Auto - Carl Winter reporting.
- "4. CIO-AFL Economic Conference - George Morris
- "5. The Worker drive - Patterson
- "6. Registration.
- "7. An exchange on some personnel problems."

CG 5824-S* advised that CARL WINTER was not in attendance at the meeting of the National Executive Committee held in New York City on March 28 and 29, 1958.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-69)

DATE: FEB 27 1958

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (100-4284-E)

SUBJECT : COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
NEW JERSEY DISTRICT
ORGANIZATION
IS-C

Re: Newark letter to the Bureau dated 2/14/58
captioned CP, USA, N.J. DISTRICT, ORGANIZATION,
IS-C

Reference is made to page four, lines 6 - 9 wherein
[redacted] advised "There has been a definite statement on
this point by such California people as Dorothy Healey,
Celeste Strack ..."

Informant advised SA [redacted] on 2/25/58,
that he had inadvertently mentioned the name of DOROTHY HEALEY
as being among this group which was not correct and should be
deleted.

The Bureau and offices receiving copies of this
letter are requested to delete the name of DOROTHY HEALEY set
forth on page four, line 7 of re letter.

2-Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL)

4-Los Angeles (REGISTERED MAIL)

100-4486 DOROTHY HEALEY

100- CP, USA SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

100-

100-

7-New York (REGISTERED MAIL)

100-23825 BEN DAVIS

100-8057 EUGENE DENNIS

100-27452 ROBERT THOMPSON

100-50090 SID STEIN

100-80641 CP, USA - ORGANIZATION

100-80638 CP, USA - MEMBERSHIP

2-San Francisco (REGISTERED MAIL)

100-

100-

CP, USA, NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

5-Newark (100-4284-E)

100-19491 PAT TOOHEY

100-2974 [redacted]

100-4284-U CP FACTIONALISM

(20)

100-80638-1439

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 28 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Waters

OFFICE MEMORANDUM UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, New York

DATE: 4/24/58

FROM: SA JOSEPH V. WATERS

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

IS-C

Rerep SA WATERS, 4/23/58, New York.

Rerep consists of 19 sections, each of which sets out investigation conducted in an area of activity of CP, USA on which an investigative file is maintained. These files are indicated by the copies of this memo designated for them. One copy of rerep has been broken down by section in order that each such file may contain pertinent material as set out in that report. Each such section is accompanied by other pertinent portions of rerep, as well as a copy of the letter, dated 4/23/58, to the Director,

1-NY 100-80641 (CP, USA -Organization) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80638 (CP, USA MEMBERSHIP) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-74560 (CP, USA FUNDS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-81338 (CP, USA SECURITY MEASURES) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-87211 (CP, USA, FACTIONALISM) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-86624 (CP, USA INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-79717 (CP, USA POLITICAL ACTIVITIES) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80636 (CP, USA LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-89691 (CP, USA DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-89590 (CP, USA STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80640 (CP, USA NEGRO QUESTION) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80644 (CP, USA YOUTH MATTERS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80643 (CP, USA WOMEN MATTERS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80634 (CP, USA FARMERS" MATTERS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-88297 (CP, USA CULTURAL ACTIVITIES) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-4651 (CP, USA NATIONAL GROUPS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-81675 (CP, USA PAMPHLETS AND PUBLICATIONS) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-80633 (CP, USA EDUCATION) (19-1)
 1-NY 100-133902 (ATTEMPTS OF CP, USA TO INFILTRATE MASS OR-
 1-NY 100-100-4931) (19-1) GANIZATIONS) (19-1)

JVW:ec1
 (20)

4/30/58
 Chief Clerk
 Post

100-80638-1440

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIAL	FILED
APR 28 1958	

NY 100-4931

transmitting the report, and a copy of the letterhead memorandum, dated 4/24/58, setting out the reliability of informants utilized.

O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M * * * U N I T E D S T A T E S G O V E R N M E N T

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-68)

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-33740)

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY - USA
MEMBERSHIP
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: 4/8/58

CG 5824-S*, on April 4, 1958, made available to SA JOHN E. KEATING, for photostating, a copy of a three-page, typewritten letter dated March 6, 1958. This letter is addressed, "National Committee, Communist Party of the United States, Dear Comrades:". The following is the complete text of the first paragraph of this letter:

"We are writing to inform you that, with profound regret, we are leaving the Communist Party. We have reached this conclusion reluctantly and only after a considerable period of time in which we, with others, hoped that the Party would move in the direction of overcoming its isolation from the American people."

The letter is signed as follows:

"From Northern California



Five additional members in San Francisco

"From Southern California



Art
Bebe

See 1a page for copies.

b6
b7C

100-80638-1441

Water

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 11 1958	
FBI - NEW YORK	

DW

CG 100-33740

- 3 - Bureau (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-3-104)(CP-USA, Counter-Intelligence Program)
- 18 - Los Angeles (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-) (CP-USA, Southern California District,
Factionalism)
(1 - 100-) (CP-USA, Southern California District,
Membership)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-37783)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-) (ART)
(1 - 100-) (BEBE)
(1 - 100-) (BOB K)
(1 - 100-) (FRANCES)
(1 - 100-) (JANET)
(1 - 100-) ("KAPPY")
(1 - 100-) (LOU B)
(1 - 100-) (MILT)
(1 - 100-) (PHIL R)
(1 - 100-) (LIL C)
- ② - New York (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-87211)(CP-USA, Factionalism)(#19-1)
(1 - 100-80638)(CP-USA, Membership)(#19-1)
- 7 - San Francisco (Encl. 1)(REGISTERED)
(1 - 100-) (CP-USA, Northern California District,
Factionalism)
(1 - 100-26239)(CP-USA, Northern California District,
Membership)
(1 - 100-40021)
(1 - 100-)
(1 - 100-2884)
(1 - 61-414)
(1 - 100-) (MARTIN)
- 2 - Chicago
(1 - A/134-46)

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

JEK:kw
(32)

CG 100-33740

Bob K.
Frances
Janet
Kappy
Lou B.
Milt
Phil R.
Lil C."

One photostat copy of this item is enclosed herewith to the Bureau, Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco Divisions. The Chicago copy is located in Chicago file 100-33740-1A11.

best available image

SAC, NEW YORK (100-112422) (12-10)

4/9/58

SA [REDACTED] (12-10)

HARRITT ELLEN GORDON
IS-C

Identity of Source: [REDACTED]

Reliability:

Who has furnished reliable information in the past.

b6
b7C

Date of Activity:

3/25/58

Date Information Received: 3/31/58

Agent Receiving Information: SA [REDACTED]

Location of Information: [REDACTED]

On 3/31/58, [REDACTED] furnished a five page hand-written report dated 3/25/58 containing information of a luncheon date with HARRITT ELLEN GORDON on 3/25/58.

b7D

If this information is disseminated outside of the Bureau it should be carefully paraphrased to conceal the informant's identity.

A copy of this report follows:

March 25 - 58

On the 25th of March I had lunch with HARRITT GORDON at the Heathaven Inn, 30 E. 29 St., NYC, and the following was said between us.

To begin with, HARRITT told me that she belonged

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- [REDACTED]
- 1- NY 100- [REDACTED] (from Independent) (7)
 - 1- NY 100-77717 (CP, USA, Political Activism) (19)
 - 1- NY 100-10538 (CP, USA, Membership & Recruitment) (20)
 - 1- NY 100-10607 (CP, USA, Information of Mass Organizations) (19)
 - 1- NY 100-7125 (NACCP) (19)
 - 1- NY 100-112422
- 100-80638-1442

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(7)

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BY [REDACTED] 4/2/58

19 [REDACTED]

NY 100-112412

from the Communist Party system, two (2) weeks ago. The main reason for her actions in the split between "Territorialism" and "Revisionism". She still believes in Marxism Socialism, and will work towards that end. For as she told us, that is her goal in life.

She told us that there are new "forces" being organized at this very moment by people such as Harritt, that have reformed, and will form a new movement under the name of Socialism.

Harritt told us of a political party in the Bronx, that was formed last year under the name of Independent Democrats. And from what I could judge from her conversation - most of her friends that resigned from the Communist Party, will be in one way or another active in this organization.

Harritt Gordon told us that due to what had taken place, it is done that for the moment that I will wait and wait things out. She told us that she will contact us soon.

When I asked about the group she was to take us into - she replied that she had talked to the twenty five (25) members - and told her to tell us to wait it out.

However, Harritt told us that she heard of a new Communist Party group (unknown to her) that is being organized around West Fordham in the Bronx. Just when it is, - she didn't know yet.

Harritt told us that she is accepted as one of these ones in the NAACP and although the Communist Party does not control her unit as yet. She refused to do what was asked of her by the C.P. - because she knew it was the wrong approach, and the NAACP might lose their faith in her.

best available image

NY 100-112422

To quote Harold Wilson, - To build a modern
car on a modern production line - We need modern tools.